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WEDDED TO GENIUS

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MASTERS GOLF

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THE TIMES

FRIDAY APRIL 7 1995

No. 65,235

JORDAN SERIALS DIVISION

Tax-free savings plan for retirement

Major seeks to tackle looming problem of baby-boomers on the pension

BY PETER RIDDELL

RADICAL proposals to encourage people to save for their old age are being drawn up for the Prime Minister, who is worried about how the country will support the "baby boom" generation when it reaches retirement age in twenty years' time.

One idea being considered is for workers to be given tax relief on their savings if they lock them into an account that could be used only after they retire. Such an account would differ from today's pension plans because savers could pay in what they liked when they liked. And, unlike Tessas and Personal Equity Plans, tax relief would be given on the money invested and not just on the interest earned.

The scheme is one of several being considered by John Major's policy unit and, while plans are at a very early stage, the Prime Minister is keen to have firm proposals to include in the Conservative general election manifesto.

Mr Major, who introduced Tessas (tax exempt special saving accounts) in his one Budget as Chancellor, is personally involved in the search for ways to encourage thrift and is enthusiastic about the ideas emerging.

A discussion paper was presented to the Cabinet yesterday by Norman Blackwell, the head of the Downing Street policy unit, although no specific proposals have been circulated in Whitehall or examined by the Treasury.

Mr Major's strong personal interest stems from his concern about the extra costs that will arise when people born in the late 1940s and 1950s retire early in the next century. He wants to persuade people to save now, not only to top up their pensions, but also to finance their health care.

Mr Major also hopes that introducing incentives for savers may help to win back the confidence of the middle classes. Ministers believe that worries about the cost of retirement have increased in line with fears about redundancy in white collar and service jobs, and the Prime Minister is looking for ways of making people feel secure.

Apart from acting to encourage savings, the policy unit and officials are examining the whole system of tax relief for personal savings, and changes may be introduced before any retirement-linked savings plan. At present, there are different tax structures for Peps, Tessas and similar schemes; the suggestion is that each adult would be allocated an overall tax ration to be distributed as he or she chooses.

Mr Major is keen to show that his party has not run out of steam after nearly 16 years in office, and he signposted some of the proposals to be unveiled in the coming year when he addressed the Conservative Central Council last Saturday.

Then, he said: "We Conservatives believe in thrift, with individuals encouraged to build up tax-free savings. That's why we introduced tax-free Tessas and Peps. We want people to have the security and independence savings provide. And we want to do more to encourage them."

In America, individual retirement accounts allow people to enjoy tax benefits if they save in schemes for retirement, though they are permitted to make withdrawals after a specified period to buy their first home, for the cost of university or training and for long-term health insurance. An expansion of these accounts is part of the tax bill in the Republians' "Contract with America" programme which was approved by the House of Representatives late on Wednesday.

Time runs out as Ingram is denied reprieve

BY BEN MACINTYRE IN JACKSON, GEORGIA, DOMINIC KENNEDY AND RUTH GLEDHILL

NICHOLAS INGRAM prepared to die in Georgia's electric chair last night after a state clemency board refused to commute his sentence to life imprisonment, in spite of a personal appeal from the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The Georgia board [illegible] days and unanimously upheld the death sentence against the British-born murderer after hearing from his victim's widow, who narrowly escaped death when Ingram broke into their home in 1983.

The board's decision left Ingram's lawyers with nine hours to file a flurry of desperate appeals before the execution, which was scheduled to take place at 7pm (midnight BST). A separate appeal for a stay of execution based on what is claimed to be new evidence was expected to work its way through four state and federal courts yesterday and would probably reach the US Supreme Court in Washington just before sentence was to be carried out.

Every other appeal, including two to the Supreme Court, has been turned down, and Ingram's legal team admitted the chances of a reprieve were growing dimmer by the hour.

His hopes had been raised on Wednesday when J. Wayne Garner, the chairman of the clemency board, insisted on meeting the condemned man face-to-face, but he was unmoved by Ingram's personal appeal for mercy. The deciding factor proved to be a telephone conversation on Wednesday night between the board and Mary Sawyer, the victim's widow, whom Mr Garner described as "quite a woman". Mr Garner ruled yesterday that death by electrocution [illegible]

His decision prompted the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, to release the text of his letter and to issue a statement saying: "As spiritual leader of the worldwide Anglican Communion, and as Easter approaches, I plead with the people of the United States of America, as a great Christian country, to search their consciences about the use of the death penalty."

Dr Carey has used the influence of his throne to intercede on behalf of a condemned man only once before, when his quiet diplomacy helped to save a prisoner in Uganda three years ago. He decided to speak up on this occasion only after John Major had refused to intervene. Ann Ingram had made two emotional appeals to Mr Major to try to save her son, who was born in Cambridge and holds dual nationality. But Mrs Garner said yesterday that intervention by the British Government would not have affected the decision.

After yesterday's ruling, Mrs Ingram and her husband travelled to the Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Centre at Jackson, and were able to stay with him until three hours before the execution was due to take place.



JUSTIN SUTCLIFFE

Last-minute appeal for mercy: Ingram and his lawyer Clive Stafford Smith appear in court at Jackson, Georgia



Garner: punishment fit for the crime

In his letter to the paroles board on Tuesday, Dr Carey wrote:

I am writing this message to you personally and in confidence as you face the awesome responsibility of deciding whether Nicholas Ingram's death sentence should be carried out. I hope you do not mind my offering some thoughts as you decide this man's fate.

First, may I ask you to consider that this young man has already spent some thirteen years suffering the mental and spiritual anguish of anticipating his execution? That constitutes an unusual and excruciating punishment, already demonstrating vividly society's just repudiation of the awful crime of which he stands convicted. I know you will weigh this consideration with great care.

I also pray, as we approach the great commemoration of Easter, that you will remember that every person is made in the image of God and is loved by Him. Our Lord has showed how, out of the darkness and sin of the crucifixion, can come resurrection and new life. He is a God who, despite all our wickedness, forgives those who truly repent and offers the chance of fresh life.

I cannot believe that it is God's will that this young man's life should be ended by state execution, after the unusual and severe retribution he has already endured. I hope that you will feel able to show mercy and commute the death penalty to a sentence which offers eventual hope of fresh life and rehabilitation.

I do not envy you your task. The responsibility must weigh heavily upon you and you will be very much in my thoughts and prayers as you make your decision. I know you will consider carefully this heartfelt appeal for clemency.

Archbishop of Canterbury
Primate of All England and Metropolitan.

Condemned cell, page 13
Martin Fletcher, page 18
Leading article, page 19

BA and Virgin settle but battle on

BY ROSS TIEMAN AND MARTIN WALLER

VIRGIN Atlantic Airways' British "dirty tricks" case against British Airways ended last night when the two airlines agreed an out of court settlement. But they continued their public row over its terms and implications.

BA said that Richard Branson's airline had agreed to withdraw its £29 million compensation claim for damage inflicted by alleged poaching of passengers by BA.

According to BA, Virgin is to pay its £750,000 legal costs, in return for a £265,000 payment plus a £100,000 contribution to its own legal costs.

But Will Whitehorn, Virgin's spokesman, said: "They have paid us £265,000." The £750,000 Virgin is claimed to owe BA he said had not been agreed. And the £29 million Virgin claim from BA for passenger poaching had not been settled, but transferred to the US, where Virgin is continuing its $1 billion claim against BA, alleging that its business was damaged by preferential treatment at Heathrow.

Virgin's C5 bid, page 23

Britain ends nuclear tests

Britain ended more than 40 years of nuclear testing when Sir Michael Weston, Ambassador to the United Nations Conference on Disarmament, said the Government agreed to scrap the right to carry out underground explosions to check weapons systems' safety and reliability ..... Page 10

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Doctors' threat of action puts pressure on Bottomley

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

VIRGINIA BOTTOMLEY, the embattled Health Secretary, faced a new headache last night after leaders of Britain's 26,000 family doctors threatened industrial action over night-visit payments.

The Government is threatened with the prospect of guerrilla warfare in surgeries lasting all the way to the next election unless it gives ground.

As John Major rallied the Cabinet behind Mrs Bottomley in her battle over London hospitals, a meeting in the capital between her deputy, Gerald Malone, and leaders of the British Medical Association ended in deadlock.

At the same time the controversy over London health care intensified with the disclosure that a cancer patient had to spend nine hours lying on a trolley in a side room before she died. Northwick Park Hospital is investigating circumstances surrounding the death of Maggie Curtin, 48.

Last night the BMA hinted at disruptive action designed to hit the Treasury and clog up hospitals without harming patients or putting doctors at risk of breaching their contracts of employment. A BMA spokesman said that after the failure of the latest round of negotiations doctors' leaders were planning to ballot their members on April 20. "A package of sanctions has been drawn up that will not harm patients or put GPs at risk of breach of contract." This was a coded description of the BMA's plans to hit the Government with a higher drugs bill and to increase the hospital workload by sending more patients to see consultants.

Mr Malone said after the meeting with BMA leaders that he was prepared to be flexible about his formula for settling the night visits dispute. He also indicated that he was ready to improve on the £15 million of new money on the table. The BMA said it wanted £100 million extra.

The new threat was the last thing Mrs Bottomley needed after the dispute that has stalled the Government's fightback launched by Mr Major last weekend. Yesterday she received a warning from David Mellor, a former Cabinet minister, that she faced a "crisis of confidence at every level".

Although there is pressure on Mr Major to move Mrs Bottomley, nothing can happen until his summer reshuffle, and there was a concerted effort yesterday to shore up his beleaguered minister.

Downing Street officials said that he backed the policies being pursued by Mrs Bottomley and Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, who has been found to be in breach of the law over the introduction of a new criminal injuries compensation scheme.

Last night Mrs Bottomley said that she had received strong support from her colleagues. "I am not going to blame my predecessors, the Treasury, the Prime Minister or my junior ministers," she said.

She acknowledged that there was a "gulf" between the public's understandable affection for their local hospital and the advice of expert committees. But she believed that people would come to appreciate the wisdom of her decisions and her reluctance to take "the short-term option or duck difficult decisions."

Trolley agony, page 2
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TOMORROW IN THE TIMES



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Body found near scene of murder

BY PAUL WILKINSON

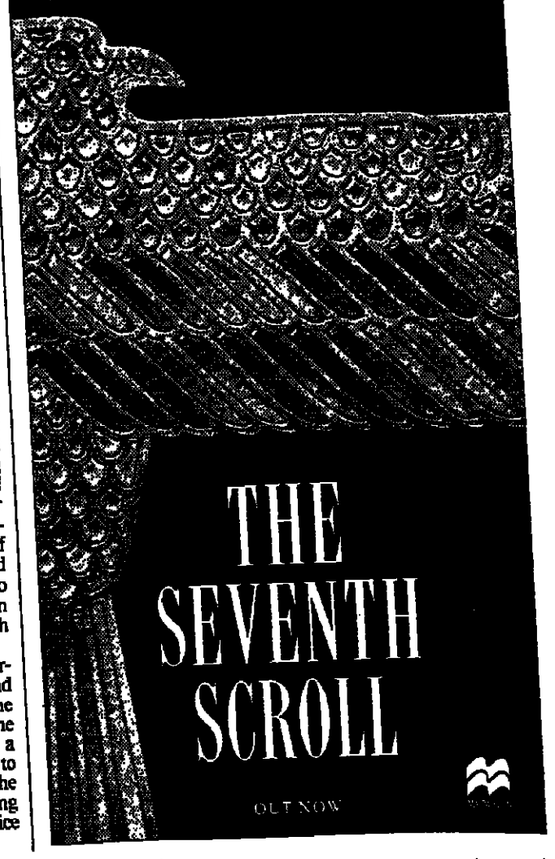
THE body of a middle-aged woman has been found near the scene of the apparently motiveless killing two months ago of a farmer's wife.

Murder squad detectives sealed off a country lane yesterday near Middleton-on-the-Wolds, Humberside, after the woman's body was discovered on the grass verge. It was apparently wrapped in a carpet or bag.

The scene is about 20 miles from Burton Fleming where Margaret Wilson, 66, was murdered by a man who cut her throat as she walked along a lane. A man in a car stopped near her and slashed her throat, using an unusual shoe-repairer's knife. He drove off before farm workers who had seen the attack could come to her aid. Nobody has been detained in connection with that killing.

At noon yesterday a motorist reported that he had found a woman's body in a lane linking Middleton wth the hamlet of Lund. Last night a post-mortem examination to determine the cause of the woman's death was being carried out by a Home Office pathologist.

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Murderer driven by ambition hoped death of fiancée's parents would bring him £150,000

Businessman gets life for shotgun killings

By Richard Duce

A BUSINESSMAN who shot dead his fiancée's parents in the hope of claiming their £150,000 estate was jailed for life yesterday.

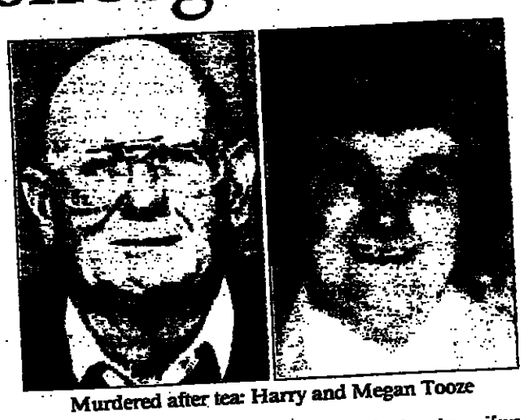
Jonathan Jones, 34, killed Harry Tooze, 64, and his wife Megan, 67, with shotgun blasts to the head after taking tea with them at their farmhouse in South Wales.

Mr Justice Rougier told him that the double murder was "an evil outside the contemplation of all of us". Jones's fiancée, Cheryl Tooze, refuses to accept that he is guilty and her decision to stand by him has left her isolated from the rest of her family.

Jones, of Orpington, south-east London, was convicted of the murders on circumstantial evidence by a 10-2 jury majority after a 58-day trial at Newport Crown Court.

The prosecution told the court how Jones was driven by greed. He wanted to start a market-research firm but had only £99 in his bank account. Cheryl Tooze, an only daughter, stood to inherit about £150,000 if her parents died. Jones knew that she was the sole beneficiary of their estate.

In July 1993 he made his way from Orpington to the Toozes' six-acre home at Llanharry, Mid Glamorgan, where he shot the couple and left their bodies in a cowshed. He later appeared on television with Miss Tooze, 34, as she made an emotional appeal for help in tracking down her parents' killer.



Murdered after tea: Harry and Megan Tooze

After the murders he went back to the one-bedroom flat he shared with Miss Tooze and pretended that he had spent the day looking for rented offices for his planned market-research firm.

Christopher Pitchford, QC, for the prosecution, said: "This is a chilling story. The killing bears all the hallmarks of an execution. Jones was a man preoccupied with money matters and ambition."

Before Jones was jailed, Miss Tooze told the court: "If I thought Jonathan was guilty I would say so. I wouldn't protect him over this. I don't know what the future holds for us. I really don't know if we can rebuild our relationship, though I always think we will be the best of friends.

"I was very close to my parents and used to worry about them all the time. I have constantly had nightmares since this happened. If I wanted money for anything all I would have to do is ask my parents."

But the judge told Jones: "It was the planned and pitiless execution of a harmless couple who should have had nothing from you except your affection and respect."

Jones shook his head as he was led away to the cells. Miss Tooze, who has lived with him for the past eight years, was not in court to see him sentenced to two life terms. She has been treated for post-traumatic stress and is taking tranquillisers.

Although Jones carefully prepared his alibi, no estate agents in Orpington remembered seeing him on the day of the murders. The court was told that he and Miss Tooze were often behind with their rent and that he could not afford to finance his business plans. He was eventually arrested and charged more than two months after his victims' funeral.

Jones had first shared a cup of tea with his unsuspecting victims, leaving his left thumbprint on a cup and saucer. But detectives found no evidence from his clothes or car to link him directly to the killings. The murder weapon was never found. Jones gave evidence in his defence, insisting he was innocenct and claiming he was "like a son" to Harry Tooze. "We spent a lot of time together and I think we had a close relationship," he said.

After the verdicts Elfed Radcliffe, 64, Megan Tooze's brother, said that he had disowned Cheryl. "I don't want to see her again. She has decided not to talk to me and other members of the family and to go and live with Jonathan's parents in Caerphilly."

Jones's parents Graham and Pauline cried as he was jailed.



Jones and Cheryl Tooze at the victims' funeral, more than two months before his arrest. He later told the court that he had been "like a son" to Harry Tooze

Schoolboy raiders jailed for hold-up

By Tim Jones

TWO public schoolboys who terrorised staff during a £2,000 armed raid on an off-licence were ordered to be detained yesterday.

Jonathan Starck, 16, and Hugh Christensen, 15, were pupils at Merchant Taylor's school in Hertfordshire when they held up Victoria Wine in Watford last year. Starck, of Watford, was sentenced to three years' detention and Christensen, of Rickmansworth, to two and a half years. Both admired robbery. Luton Crown Court heard that Starck, brandishing an imitation revolver, burst into the shop with his face covered by a scarf and sunglasses. He ordered the manager, Rohan Mascarenhas, 25, to turn off the lights and move to the safe. Stephen Harral, the assistant, hit a silent alarm but it did not work. Told there was a 15-minute delay before the safe opened, Starck told the manager to empty the tills. He added: "Don't do anything stupid or I will kill you."

Christensen was then let in through the back door. When they left, Starck warned the men not to follow and Christensen added: "Or we will come back and kill you."

As Starck drove away in his father's car he crashed into a wall. A resident, Alan Burgess, who went to help, saw the gun and forced it from Starck's hand. They were arrested when police arrived.

Bowbelle chief 'had lost job through drink'

By Edward Gorman

THE master of the dredger *Bowbelle* had a record of dereliction of duty due to drinking while in charge of a ship, it was suggested at the inquest into the *Marchioness* disaster yesterday.

The allegation, made for the first time in public, came from a lawyer representing the families of the victims during a 70-minute appearance in the witness box by Douglas Henderson, who was in command of the dredger at the time of the collision on the Thames in August 1989 in which 51 people died.

Mr Henderson, 36, who has twice been acquitted of charges in connection with the disaster, repeatedly refused to answer questions put to him by Terry Munyard, counsel for the families of the victims. Dr John Burton, the west London Coroner, warned Mr Henderson that he might incriminate himself.

Mr Munyard asked whether Mr Henderson had been employed on two ships during the mid-1980s by a Danish skipper who had sacked him for repeatedly drinking while on duty. Dr Burton said Mr Henderson should not answer because the question was outside the remit of the inquest. "He may have convictions for drink-driving, but it isn't relevant to this inquest."

Dr Burton stepped in again when Mr Munyard suggested to Mr Henderson that twice in June 1989 — two months before the disaster — the *Bowbelle* had either run aground or been in collision when he was in charge. Earlier Dr Burton read to the jury the notes of a police interview of Mr Henderson conducted the day after the disaster. In the course of the interview Mr Henderson admitted he had returned to his ship on the night of the collision after drinking one pint of beer in four pubs and possibly two in a fifth.

He told the police that after visiting the pubs he had returned to the *Bowbelle* at 6pm and then slept between 8pm and 11.45pm, when he got up ready to sail at midnight. Dr Burton is likely to end his summing-up today.

Mr Henderson still works for South Coast Shipping of Southampton, which owned the *Bowbelle*. Last year he was suspended for six weeks on full pay while the company investigated allegations that he was drunk while on board his new ship. No disciplinary action was taken against him.



Henderson: silent

Fear of attack led Stagg to carry axe

By Marianne Curphey

COLIN STAGG, the man acquitted last year of murdering Rachel Nickell on Wimbledon Common, had been threatened so often since his trial that he regularly carried an axe for self-defence, his solicitor told a court yesterday.

He was carrying it while out walking with his fiancée on Wimbledon Common in January this year, when he got into a fight with a 34-year-old gas fitter which resulted in both suffering cuts and bruises. The court was told that Mr Stagg was kicked and head-butted and his fiancée, Diane Beddoes, fell into a pond.

Mr Stagg, 31, and Miss Beddoes, 26, of Roehampton, southwest London, each pleaded guilty at Wimbledon Magistrates' Court yesterday to carrying an offensive weapon. Mr Stagg also admitted threatening behaviour.

Ian Ryan, for the couple, said that since his release from the Old Bailey last September, Mr Stagg had received threatening letters and phone calls, had been burgled and "felt that everyone was against him". Miss Beddoes carried a cosh.

Mr Ryan said: "His life in effect was complete and utter misery. He was living in effect in a pressure cooker." Mr Stagg had faced constant harassment since being acquitted of murder.

The hearing was adjourned until May 4 and the couple were granted bail.

Doctor found hacked to death in seafront flat

By Kate Alderson and Andrew Pierce

THE body of a retired police surgeon has been found hacked to death in his beachfront apartment. Alan King, 70, of Lytham, near Blackpool, is thought to have been killed 48 hours before he was found on Wednesday night.

The murder is thought to be the first in Lytham for 40 years. Dr King was bludgeoned to death by a heavy, sharp instrument and two of his fingers were sliced off when he held his arms up in self-defence.

Detectives were yesterday interviewing a 20-year-old man from Blackburn in connection with the murder.

The alarm was raised when the doctor, a renowned bridge player, failed to turn up for a match at his local club. Police went to the flat and found the body, which had severe head injuries.

Dr King, who had changed his name from Abdur Rahman Qurashi, retired five years ago after running his own surgery in Blackburn. He worked as a surgeon for Lancashire Police for more than ten years. He was accused and acquitted in 1982 of defrauding the National Health Service.

Carol Humphries, secretary of his bridge club, said: "We are all deeply shocked. This is awful. Dr King was a kind and gentle man. He didn't turn up for his usual game and one of the members contacted the police because we feared he was ill.

"He hadn't been in good health so we were worried about him. We kept ringing but there was never any answer."

She said that Dr King was an excellent bridge player and had competed against the best in the country. He had earlier fulfiled one of his ambitions when he played against Omar Sharif.

Neighbours of Dr King, who include Michael Jack, the Agriculture Minister, were appalled by the brutality of the killing. Alison Jack, the minister's wife, said last night: "We are all shocked. This is a peaceful area."

He had lived alone in the flat for five years. It was protected by an entry-phone.

A neighbour in the flats said: "He was a perfect gentleman who came here to retire. He wanted a quiet life away from it all but close enough to his beloved bridge. We are all deeply shocked."

Mary Porter, Dr King's cleaner, was horrified. "I cannot believe this. I was supposed to call at his flat on Tuesday but could not make it. He was a nice easy-going man."

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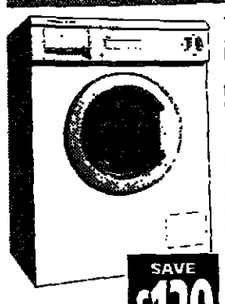
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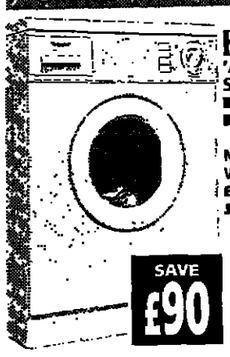
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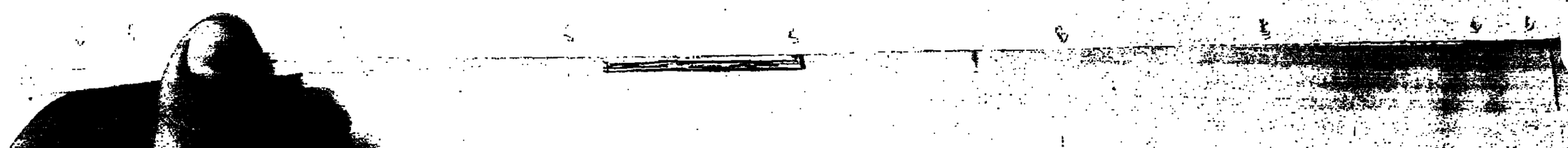
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Research backs traditional teaching

Grammar lessons 'help children to be better readers'

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

CHILDREN need to be taught basic grammar if they are to avoid falling behind in reading and spelling, research pioneered at Oxford University has found. The findings, which will increase support for traditional teaching methods, will be presented at an international conference today.

A team of researchers led by Professor Peter Bryant, the Watts Professor of Psychology, has established a link between an awareness of grammar and syntax, and children's progress in learning to read. Tests of children in London and Oxford are said to have produced astonishing results.

The findings, which will be reported at the Reading 2000 conference in Glasgow, come amid fresh concern over standards of literacy in primary schools. The City Technology Colleges Trust has commissioned an inquiry in all its 160 affiliated schools after discovering that one in five entrants reads poorly.

The Oxford research focused on children's ability to recognise past tenses and develop more advanced techniques, such as the use of the apostrophe. An awareness of a word's grammatical context proved to be crucial in spelling and initial decoding.

Professor Bryant said yesterday: "We are really excited about the research because it is saying something quite new about the later stages of reading and spelling. The project is not about teaching methods, but we do think that the relationship between grammar and spelling is underemphasised in schools."

The teaching of grammar has declined over the past 30 years, as the emphasis in English lessons has switched to more informal methods of learning. Ministers have tried to encourage a revival through the national curriculum and new marking criteria in public examinations.

Standards of literacy have been the subject of growing concern in recent years. National surveys have suggested that one in seven adults has reading problems.

The CTC Trust launched its initiative this week after council members were shocked by the latest reports on standards among 11-year-olds entering its affiliated schools. About 20 per cent of pupils were between two and three years behind their expected reading age, and in one London school the proportion reached 40 per cent.

Sir Cyril Taylor, the trust's chairman, said: "When we have that level of problem we have to focus on it. One school even considered suspending the curriculum for a semester to concentrate on literacy and numeracy, but we were advised that this might be illegal."

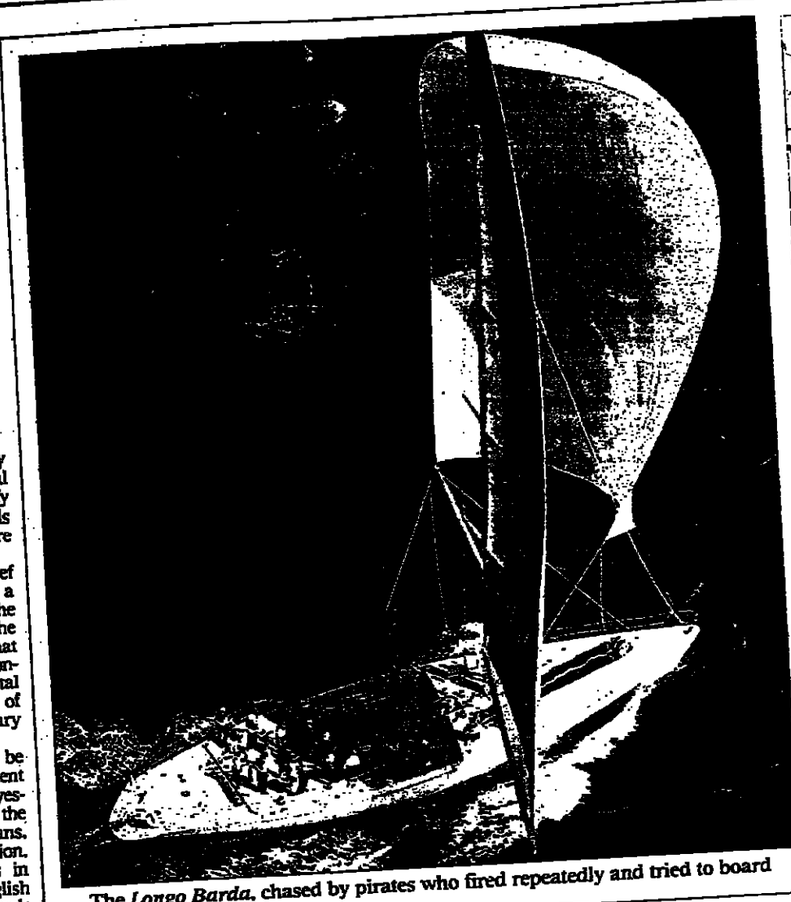
Some CTCs are to experiment with computer-based teaching of reading, which has produced great improvements among children in trials. The package has been found to motivate slow learners particularly, moving them on automatically to higher levels when they master basic techniques.

Others have enlisted the help of pupils' grandparents and other relatives to run programmes in remedial reading. The trust is to examine the various approaches when the schools report back later in the year.

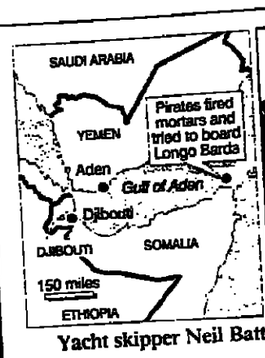
Sir Cyril said: "In the past, this problem has been swept under the carpet, but it is fundamental to raising achievement in secondary schools. It is not a general problem: we could identify particular primary schools where reading standards are particularly bad."

Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, told a conference in London that he was not surprised by the trust's findings. He said that inspectors' reports were continuing to raise fundamental questions about methods of teaching in many primary schools.

□ Schools in Wales would be set targets for improvement under plans announced yesterday by John Redwood, the Welsh Secretary. The plans, published for consultation, would set GCSE targets in mathematics, science, English and Welsh, which the schools would publish annually.



The *Longo Barda*, chased by pirates who fired repeatedly and tried to board





Yacht skipper Neil Batt, ambushed off Somalia

Yacht crew saved from pirate attack

BY LUCY BERRINGTON

THE skipper of a British ocean racing yacht last night described how he and his crew of six escaped "by the skin of our teeth" after being ambushed by pirates off the coast of Africa.

Neil Batt said the pirates, firing repeatedly, came within 6ft of the *Longo Barda* off Somalia in the Gulf of Aden. The two Britons, one New Zealander and four Australians were rescued when a Canadian warship raced to their assistance after picking up a radioed call for help.

Speaking to *The Times* by radio, Australian-born Mr Batt, from Lymington, Hampshire, said the pirates began their attack with a mortar shot at 6am on Wednesday. Firing guns repeatedly, they tracked the yacht for more than an hour. Mr Batt, 36, and his crew were preparing to negotiate for their lives: "There were about 10 to 15 Africans armed with hand guns trying to board. We hoped we could buy our way out of it." The yacht, returning from the Sydney to Hobart race, was saved by the arrival of a container vessel and the Canadian frigate.



Cantona: devised training

Cantona will coach 700 young players

BY STEWART TENDLER

ERIC CANTONA, the Manchester United footballer, will coach more than 700 youngsters in a special programme which he has devised to conform with the community service order made by a judge last week.

Liz Calderbank, assistant chief probation officer for Greater Manchester, said: "This is no soft option. We insisted that Mr Cantona devise the programme and it is very demanding in terms of the numbers involved and the length of the coaching sessions." The children — aged between nine and 11 — will have one two-hour session in groups of 12 with the former French international and Premier League player.

They will be drawn from clubs and schools in the Salford area of Manchester which are already involved with the probation service.

Cantona was given the 120-hour order after a successful appeal against a two-week prison sentence for attacking a spectator he said was taunting him during a match at Crystal Palace. The court recommended that he should be given work which made use of his skills and helped young people.

Cantona will use his club's training ground, The Cliff, in Salford, for four hours of coaching each weekday afternoon starting on April 18. The secure facilities were chosen to avoid media intrusion and sessions will be supervised by a probation officer. The programme is likely to last for some months because of Cantona's commitments.

Hospital survival rates vary for hip surgery

BY JEREMY LAURANCE

PATIENTS admitted for surgery after fracturing a hip are seven times more likely to die in some hospitals than others, researchers have found.

A University of Cambridge study of 580 patients treated at eight hospitals in East Anglia showed that while almost one in five of the patients died within three months, survival rates differed between hospitals from 75 per cent to 95 per cent.

The findings demonstrate the importance of clinical audit studies comparing different styles of care, which are increasingly practised in the NHS. Over 55,000 people, most of them elderly women, break a hip each year in England, and the death rate is high, at 12 to 20 per cent within four months.

In the East Anglian study, reported in tomorrow's *British Medical Journal*, the age, sex, type of fracture and previous health of patients were not factors. Nor was the survival rate affected by whether surgery was performed by consultants or junior doctors.

There was a link with the prescribing of anti-coagulant drugs. Giving these drugs to prevent blood clots after surgery is recognised good practice but was not routine in all of the hospitals. There were 12 deaths from pulmonary embolism — blood clot on the lung — among patients not given the drugs, compared with none among those who were.

One hospital had a sevenfold lower risk of dying. The researchers, led by Dr Chris Todd of the university's Health Services Research Group, say that no single aspect of this hospital's practice explains the better survival rate, which seems to result from the total care.

The hospital, which, like the others, is unidentified, had a special team for treating hip fractures, with one surgeon doing most of the operations and patients routinely given drugs to prevent blood clots. Patients were got back on their feet early after surgery and careful plans made for their discharge.

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Lorry driver convicted of murder scoured medical textbooks to refute expert evidence

Judges free man who studied in jail to prove innocence

BY RICHARD FORD


Lord Justice Swinton Thomas

A LORRY driver who spent his time in jail studying the human brain to prove he could not have killed his girlfriend's daughter was freed yesterday when the Court of Appeal quashed his conviction for murder.

Lord Justice Swinton Thomas said that it was "a matter of regret to this court" that Kevin Callan, who studied medical textbooks in his cell at Wakefield jail, had been convicted. He paid tribute to Mr Callan, who left school at 16 with no qualifications, for the "tireless" research that led to him winning his freedom. Mr Callan will now apply to the Home Office for compensation for the four years he spent behind bars.

As Mr Callan, 36, emerged from the cells, he hugged his parents and said the first things he wanted were a haircut and shower. Outside the court in London he said: "I have been in prison for four years convicted of the murder of a child I love and it has been a devastating experience for myself and my family." He thanked Philip Wrightson and Helen Whitwell, two doctors whose new evidence helped to free him, and praised the support of family and friends.

Last night he arrived in Tameside in Greater Manchester for a family celebration at his sister's home.Mr Callan, from Hyde, Greater Manchester, was given a life sentence at Manchester Crown Court in 1992 after being convicted of the murder of Amanda Allman, the four-year-old daughter of his then girlfriend.

He was convicted largely on the evidence of Dr Geoffrey Garrett, a Home Office pathologist, who concluded that Amanda, who suffered from cerebral palsy, was probably shaken to death.

Yesterday the appeal court judges heard criticism of the "absolute dogmatism" of Dr Garrett's evidence and the way in which he had examined the dead girl's head injuries. Mr Callan always protested his innocence and said that on the day the girl died she had fallen down the stairs and from a garden slide. He said these may have caused the two haemorrhages identified by Dr Garrett.

A second doctor suggested at the trial that Amanda had been physically abused before her death. Lesley Allman, the dead girl's mother, supported Mr Callan's struggle to win his freedom after his conviction. She has since married another man.

While in Wakefield prison Mr Callan requested medical textbooks to learn about brain injuries. He wrote letters to experts in Britain and abroad seeking help and one, Dr Wrighton in New Zealand, provided a report challenging Dr Garrett's conclusions. The Crown Prosecution Service then ordered fresh reports from three more experts who confirmed that the girl died from her falls.

Richard Henriques, QC, for the CPS, which did not oppose the appeal, said because of her illness Amanda had regularly injured herself. He said that Dr Garrett's evidence, that the injuries must have been caused by shaking rather than direct trauma because there was no skull fracture, had been contradicted by every other doctor consulted.

He said that Michael Green, Professor of Forensic Pathology at Sheffield University, concluded in a report that Dr Garrett's performance in the witness box left much to be desired and could well be challenged. "His absolute dogmatism in his view that death was due to shaking and not anything else would be difficult to justify," the report said.

Professor Green had also criticised Dr Garrett's conduct of the post-mortem examination, including his failure to preserve the brain which had been "inexcusable".

Mr Henriques said that Dr Whitwell, a consultant neuropathologist, believed Amanda's death was caused most probably by trauma rather than shaking and Dr Wrightson said that the girl's injuries were definitely not caused by shaking. After Dr Garrett was confronted with the new evidence, he made a statement agreeing that direct trauma was a possibility that merited attention.

Michael Mansfield, QC, for Mr Callan, said that the police's forceful questioning of Mr Callan after his arrest, based on the pathologist's opinion, showed the dangers of a dogmatic approach to a defendant. It was a "sad reflection" that Mr Callan himself had to find the expert witnesses who got to the truth.

Lord Justice Swinton Thomas, sitting with Mr Justice Latham and Mr Justice Morrison, said it would be wholly unfair for the court to criticise Dr Garrett without giving him a hearing.


Kevin Callan celebrates his victory outside the appeal court with his father, Arthur, and mother, Joan, yesterday

Mother sacked by RAF wins £55,000

A former RAF wing commander agreed a settlement of £55,000 yesterday as compensation for being sacked in 1980 after becoming pregnant. Margaret Markey, 55, from Paxton, Cambridgeshire, had been in line for promotion to air commodore, an industrial tribunal was told.

Ulster fire attack

An officer at the Maze prison near Belfast had his car wrecked by fire outside his home in Ballyclare, Co Antrim. The fire follows several similar attacks carried out by loyalists and linked to unrest at the Maze, where 150 prisoners rioted last month.

Tug crew saved

The six-man crew of a tug was rescued by a passing ferry yesterday when their boat sank off the Isle of Skye. The tug struck the bottom in the Kyle of Lochalsh, a narrow stretch between Skye and the mainland. She started taking in water and sent a mayday.

Turner turns up

A previously unknown watercolour of a Swiss landscape by Turner, worth an estimated £50,000, has been found in the Marquess of Northampton's attic at Castle Ashby, Northamptonshire, during a routine valuation of property by Christie's.

Forces pay rise

Medical and dental officers in the Armed Forces are to receive an average 2.7 per cent pay rise in line with awards for other ranks announced in February. The increases will be backdated to April 1 and will cost the Ministry of Defence an extra £1.8 million.

A snip at £3,910

A lock of Charles I's hair sold to an American collector for £3,910 yesterday at Bonhams in London. John Reznikoff, 34, who also owns a lock of Napoleon's hair, said: "I reckon I got a bargain. He did lose his hair in one fell swoop, after all."

RSPB fights sand eel plan

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

BIRD conservationists fearing a sharp decline in seabird numbers are opposing government plans to reopen the Shetland sand eel fishing grounds.

The sand eel fishery was closed in 1990 after a fall in stocks and in the number of seabirds. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds says that bird numbers have not yet recovered fully from the 1980s when Arctic terns, kittiwakes, puffins and skuas were badly depleted.

Arctic tern, which feed their young almost exclusively on sand eels, fell by 75 per cent. Since the closure of the fishery, numbers are back to 30 per cent of their previous levels. The sand eels are fished for animal and fish meal rather than for human consumption.

Fishermen insist that the decline in bird numbers was not their fault. However, government scientists concluded that, while there were natural fluctuations in sand eel numbers, fishing was a contributory factor in their decline.

The RSPB wants to see legal restrictions on the number of fishing vessels and a close-season beginning on June 1, compared with a government proposal of June 30. The Government has agreed that some regulation is necessary but proposes to let fishermen and conservationists decide between them which areas should be closed.


The ruffed lemur eats fruit and lives mainly in trees

Welsh farmer shoots lemur in lambs' field

A SHEEP farmer in North Wales shot dead a rare lemur that he feared might attack his lambs. In fact the monkey-like creature, which had escaped from an animal sanctuary, is a fruit-eater (Michael Hornsby writes).

Sue Drummond, who runs the Arenig Rescue Centre at Bala, Gwynedd, said last night that she was devastated by the loss of the black and white ruffed lemur, a native of Madagascar. "It seems to me a very impetuous act to shoot such a harmless and adorable animal," she said.

The farmer, Gwynfor Williams, of Llanuwchllyn, shot it after a policeman told him he had seen a strange animal near some sheep. "It had driven 40 lambs into a corner of the field where they were pressing up against the fence and in danger of suffocating," Mr Williams said.

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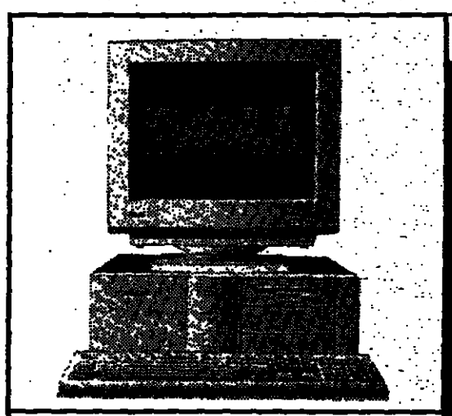


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Lord Harris of High Cross, champion of the pipe, enters the smoke of battle on the Brighton line

Free-market guru seeks to pacify fuming commuters

By Alice Thomson

LORD HARRIS of High Cross has become the unlikely referee in the battle of the Brighton commuters.

The affable Thatcherite sage has appointed himself to arbitrate between smokers who have been holding illegal "fug-ins" in the buffet car, and non-smokers who keep reporting them to the Transport Police. Two years ago British Rail, backed by the Government, banned smoking on commuter routes in the South East, including the Brighton to Victoria line. They produced an opinion survey showing that most commuters opposed smoking on trains.

Lord Harris, the man behind the free-market Institute of Economic Affairs and chairman of Forest, the tobacco industry-funded action group for smokers' rights, smokes a pipe and has never commuted by train. But, having spent two months studying the Brighton commuters' rebellion, he smells scandal. Next week he launches the 22-page Forest report, *No Smoking Without Fire*. At meetings in the Shakespeare Tavern, Waterloo, "I acted as Robin Day, arbitrating between a lot of suits and a few roughnecks mingling with twin sets and pearls," he explains. He also talked to Ash, the anti-smoking group.

"When I heard that BR were putting plain-clothes police onto the smokers I offered to mediate. It seemed ridiculous that smokers were being followed home and threatened with a £500 fine just for lighting up. I thought I would be the ideal referee. Is a pipe smoker any less impartial than a non-smoker, ex-smoker or anti-smoker?"



Lord Harris: arbitrator

Lord Harris, a spritely 70-year-old who has smoked for 50 years and carries three spare pipes, has been into hospital only once, and is less interested in smokers' lungs than their rights.

"For 150 years smokers and non-smokers commuted amicably together. BR cannot suddenly deny smokers, 29 per cent of the adult population, their basic rights, especially when these people have paid over £3,000 a year for the privilege of commuting. They couldn't do it to the disabled or women so why pick on other minority groups?

"My friend Lord Aldington used to come up every day smoking his pipe and reading *The Times*. Now he has to drive and can't enjoy either."

The report picks BR's opinion survey to pieces. When Lord Harris finally forced BR to divulge the findings, he discovered that only 49 per cent of non-smokers favoured a decrease in smoking accommodation. BR and the Government have refused to consult with anyone on the issue. "The ministers are very chummy to me but they don't want anything that rocks their privatisation boat," Lord Harris said.

"This is one of the most outrageous cases against the individual that I have seen. No one is suggesting that smokers should mingle but at least one of the twelve carriages should be for them."

Lord Harris wants to meet the BR chairman, John Welsby, to persuade him politely to change his mind, "so he doesn't let a rebellion in the regions turn into fisticuffs throughout Britain. Already other lines are beginning to rumble."

ANDRE CAMARA



Smoke signal: a passenger on the 18.06 to Brighton defies the ban. Smokers say at least one of the 12 carriages should be set aside for them

Passion ignited in resistance to tobacco police

■ Smokers on the Victoria to Brighton commuter trains are winning support from non-smokers for their defiance of Network SouthCentral's ban, Robin Young reports

THE message from the smoke-filled corridors of the 18.06 from London Victoria to Brighton is clearer than a smoker's cough. It is that no one, smoker or non-smoker, is happy about Network SouthCentral's ban on smoking aboard its trains.

The buffet cars on the 18.06 and the 19.00 trains have become the smoker's last redoubt on the network's otherwise smoke-free lines. In defiance of the ban, imposed in 1993, a hard-core of 50 or 60 unrepentant smokers fill the buffet cars on those two trains each evening and light up.

They complain of harassment by railway officials and plain-clothes police, but have the support of several non-smoking friends who choose to travel in the buffet cars, claiming that although the atmosphere may be smoky it is much more convivial than in other parts of the train. When the authorities descended on a group of suspected smokers recently, the whole carriage began singing *Deutschland über alles*.

Sheona Nicoll, 33, from Hove, a customer-care consultant working in Westminster, was one of three smokers cautioned by a party of nine uniformed and plain-clothes police and railway officials. "It was very intimidating and frightening," she said. "I think that after people have been up 12 hours and working all day in what are often non-smoking offices they should have the right to relax and unwind on their way home. I do not smoke on the way into work in the morning, because there is no safety in numbers then, and that is when they try to pick us off."

Nigel Thomas, 26, a project manager from Brighton who was cautioned at the same time, said: "While the revenue control officers are harrying us, 20 or 30 people are hopping off the train without paying their fares. It is a fantastic waste of resources. When you have to call in police to threaten fare-paying travellers with court injunctions and massive fines I think you can say customer relations have pretty well broken down completely."

Ian Thompson, 43, a civil servant and 40-a-day man, said: "We are a significant minority, and we deserve some consideration. If between a fifth and a quarter of the population smoke, on a 12-carriage train we might expect to have two or three carriages where smoking is permitted. Just one carriage would be excellent, but they will not even allow us that."

Pamela Woodhill of Brighton, a sales assistant approaching retirement, said: "It's incredible to me that hard-working, fare-paying people are having their collars felt for a perfectly normal activity, especially when the solution is so simple. If I had a customer who was spending thousands of pounds a year, I would show them a bit more respect."

Gary Ceaplan, 25, a City worker from Brighton, said he had left work half an hour late to take a train from Victoria rather than London Bridge, so that he could join other smokers. "I only smoke about five a day, but I reckon to have three of those on the train going home," he said.

Of non-smokers on the train, David Dickinson, 52, a university lecturer from Imperial College London, said: "I have complained in the past about smokers commandeering the buffet car on this train, but now I only come in here when I am travelling with a colleague. I do think some provision should be made for the smokers, so that non-smokers can have access to a smoke-free buffet car."

Maz Hannaford, 25, a secretary from East Grinstead, said: "I have never wanted to smoke myself, but I always come in the buffet car on this train. It is a lot more fun, like a pub on wheels."

Ian Rhodes, 35, a health service worker standing near an open window, said: "Passive smoking should be tackled, but it is not realistic to expect fellow travellers to enforce the rules. If the railway want to have a complete ban they should be prepared to enforce it, or they should give it up. The present situation is unsatisfactory for all concerned."

The buffet car attendant said: "Luckily I am a smoker myself, so it really does not worry me."

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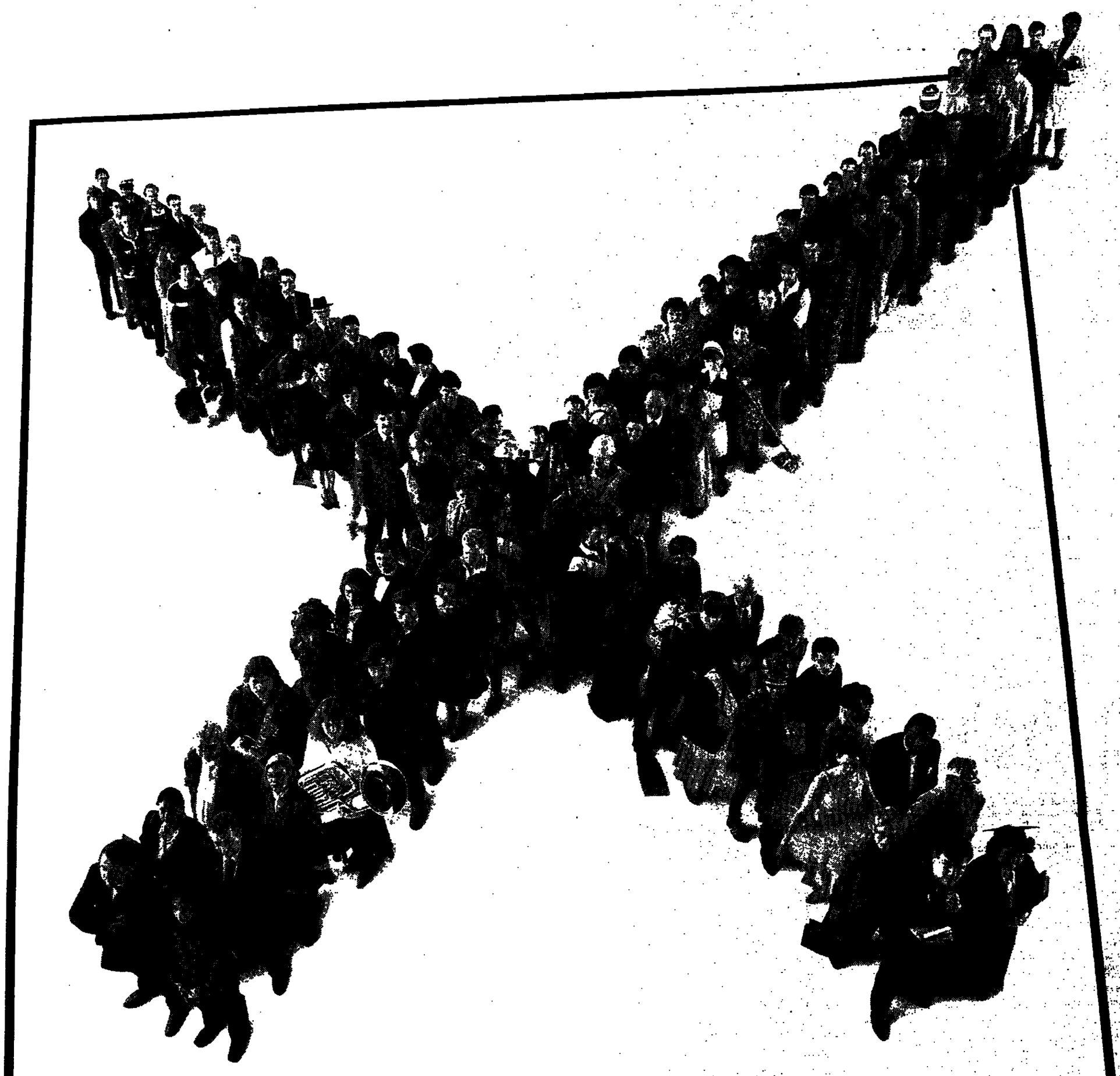
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Lawyers find police 'soft touch' for cash as complaints rise

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

CIVIL actions against the police are increasing because lawyers are cashing in on legal aid fees and forces have become a "soft touch" for quick settlements, a barrister told a national police conference yesterday.

Some of the cases could be stopped if forces were prepared to admit mistakes and send a letter of apology.

John Beggs, who specialises in defending police, said suing forces had become a "potent source of income" for High Street criminal law firms. Government changes in the amounts paid in legal aid for criminal cases had reduced income but legal-aid work for civil cases was still well paid.

Barristers specialising in criminal work were also beginning to realise the potential income from civil litigation. Every time they got someone acquitted in difficult or dramatic circumstances they might now advise solicitors to bring a claim even if the chances of success were not good.

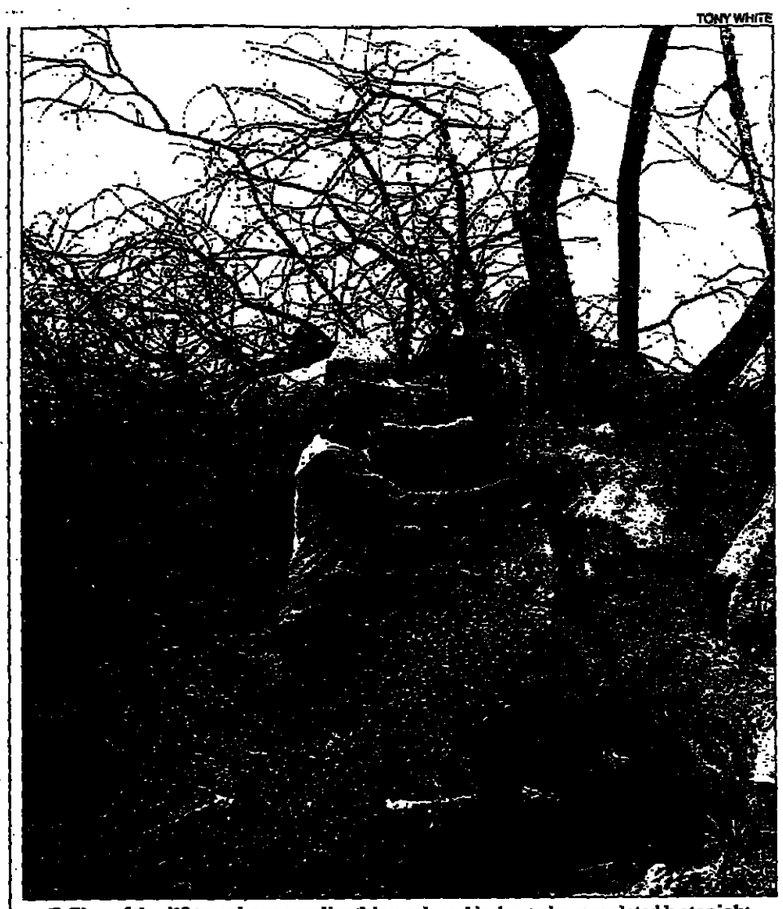
Scotland Yard paid out £1.76 million last year for such actions and is currently facing a claim from Colin Stagg for punitive damages over the Rachel Nickell case. Many forces are not insured for most claims and policies carry an excess clause which means they have to find the first £110,000 of any settlement.

Mr Beggs said that the reasons for the rise included publicity, an increasing awareness by people of their rights and a lack of confidence in police complaint procedures. Mr Beggs, addressing lawyers and police in London at a conference called to seek ways of reducing claims, said a number of forces were also now recognised as easy to take on. A defendant arrested for a few hours after a Friday night brawl could earn himself £1,500 in a quick settlement.

He said police handling protests such as the picketing of veal exports were facing a new threat for court actions. The plaintiffs were articulate, politically motivated and saw the police as the frontline of the opposition. There were examples where officers were tied up in court for weeks, obliging forces to reduce their operations. Protest groups also picked on forces as deliberate strategy. One force had paid damages in 80 out of 83 cases brought by hunt saboteurs over two years.

Mr Beggs said that after ten years of working with police he had yet to see a letter of apology sent out. Forces seemed to believe that such a move amounted to admitting liability, but this was not always the case.

Another speaker, Dr Barrie Irving, director of the Police Foundation, said that Britain was following the United States in seeing an increase in litigation against all the professions, including the police.



TONY WHITE

Felling of the 418 trees began earlier this week and is due to be completed by tonight

Canadians angry at felling of memorial trees

BY LIN JENKINS

AN AVENUE of 418 sycamore trees, planted as a memorial to Canadian servicemen who died in two world wars, is expected to have been felled by tonight by workmen from the Highways Agency.

The destruction of the living memorial has incensed a group of Canadian veterans, which is said to be considering bypassing Britain during the VE Day celebrations in protest. Objectors have complained of the "crass insensitivity" of the felling so soon before VE Day.

The trees, which form a canopy over the southbound A3 at Bramshott, Hampshire, have been deemed diseased, dangerous to drivers and in the way of road widening. Protesters have held candle-lit vigils since the felling began earlier this week and the local Tory MP, Michael Mates, needed a police escort after mistakenly assuring campaigners that he had won a stay of execution for the trees.

They were planted at the end of the First World War along a one-mile stretch where the A3 bisected the Canadians' military camp. Additional trees were planted after the Second World War.

Gordon McGhee, 71, who married his wife Linda after coming to Bramshott during the last war, described the felling as slaughter. "It is not the trees that are dangerous but the drivers," he said. "People seem to have forgotten that this is a memorial."

Slim Bradford, 80, a Canadian living in Minehead, has written to the Queen and John Major in protest. "Over the years I have taken many veterans and widows to see the magnificent trees," he said. "They bring back powerful memories of the struggles we faced during the war and the sadness to those who did not return to their loved ones."

He said the timing of the felling meant that the Canadian Veterans' Association was considering bypassing Britain and heading straight for Holland for VE Day.



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Death of Everett gives credence to dangerous myth

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

KENNY EVERETT'S death has been mourned by his many listeners. His broadcasting, unashamedly homosexual, was loved as much by a heterosexual Chelsea matron as by his male fans in Brighton.

Yesterday newspapers carried photographs of Everett enjoying a night out with Freddie Mercury and two other gay friends; all four are now dead, and all four died from HIV. Unfortunately, this picture reinforced the perception that Aids is a homosexual plague and that others are safe. Britain is lucky, or its sexually active population has been careful, for as yet Aids — or HIV positivity which is medically speaking far more important — is still a homosexual or drug abusers' problem.

In the Third World Aids is a predominantly heterosexual disease, and so it will become here even though the changeover from homosexual to heterosexual epidemic has taken much longer than was predicted by the experts 14 years ago. Recently the public health laboratory service inquired into the source of infection in 3,814 cases of heterosexual British people who had Aids. Their investigations underlined the message to the travelling public to be very careful, or preferably totally sexually continent, when travelling abroad. Of the 3814 cases which are considered British, have been investigated, 2,838 had been caught overseas. The stark naked Thai girl in a Bangkok bar may seem as healthy as she is charming but her HIV status is anybody's guess.

Of the remaining cases 508 had had sex with high-risk partners — drug abusers or bisexual men. In the other cases, inquiries continue, but the assumption is that they were infected by heterosexual low-risk partners. The heterosexual epidemic of Aids overseas is related to a greater acceptance of prostitution and the prevalance of sexually transmitted diseases.

Since the First World War in Britain there has been the most comprehensive system of genito-urinary medical clinics in the world, with the sole purpose of treating venereal disease.

The same service does not exist elsewhere and genital infections are rife. It is the problems associated with these infections, and also suffered by women who have been damaged in childbirth, which result in many of them having a chronic discharge. It is often forgotten, but HIV flourishes as readily, if not more readily, in pus as it does in blood.



Everett: mourned by fans

Trawl the stores for bargain fish

BY JOHN RUSSELL

IN THE final days of Lent, white fish is available at good prices, with cod and haddock fillets fetching about £2.95 per lb. Packets of four hot cross buns are reduced at Budgens from 71p to 49p and Asda is offering a 700ml Mareitta Easter chick ice cream log at 99p.

Bargains are available this week on household goods and toiletries. Sainsbury's has reductions on its own brands, with one litre of moisture cream bath down from £1.29 to 99p and 12 soft bathroom tissue rolls for £2.69.

Other advertised offers:

Asda: Olive Gold Spread (500g) 69p; Colgate Total Pump (100ml) £1.65.

Budgens: traditional French brie (loose from deli) £1.99 per lb.

Co-op: Del Monte pineapple sorbet (500ml) £1.49; Stowells Vin de Pays du Tarn, 3l for £10.99; fresh whole extra-large chicken (min weight), 5lb 12oz at £4.49.

Harrods: ciceti with olives or mushrooms, £6.80 per lb; cherry mozzarella with chilli and oregano, £6.80 per lb.

Iceland: North Atlantic prawns, £2.99 for 400g; petit pois 99p for 2lb.

Marks & Spencer: pot chrysanthemums, £2.99 each; seedless red grapes £1.49 per lb.

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Safeway: golden delicious apples, 38p per lb.

Sainsbury: Tennants Pilsner (x24), £9.79; J.S. Boboli pepperoni pizza £1.85 each.

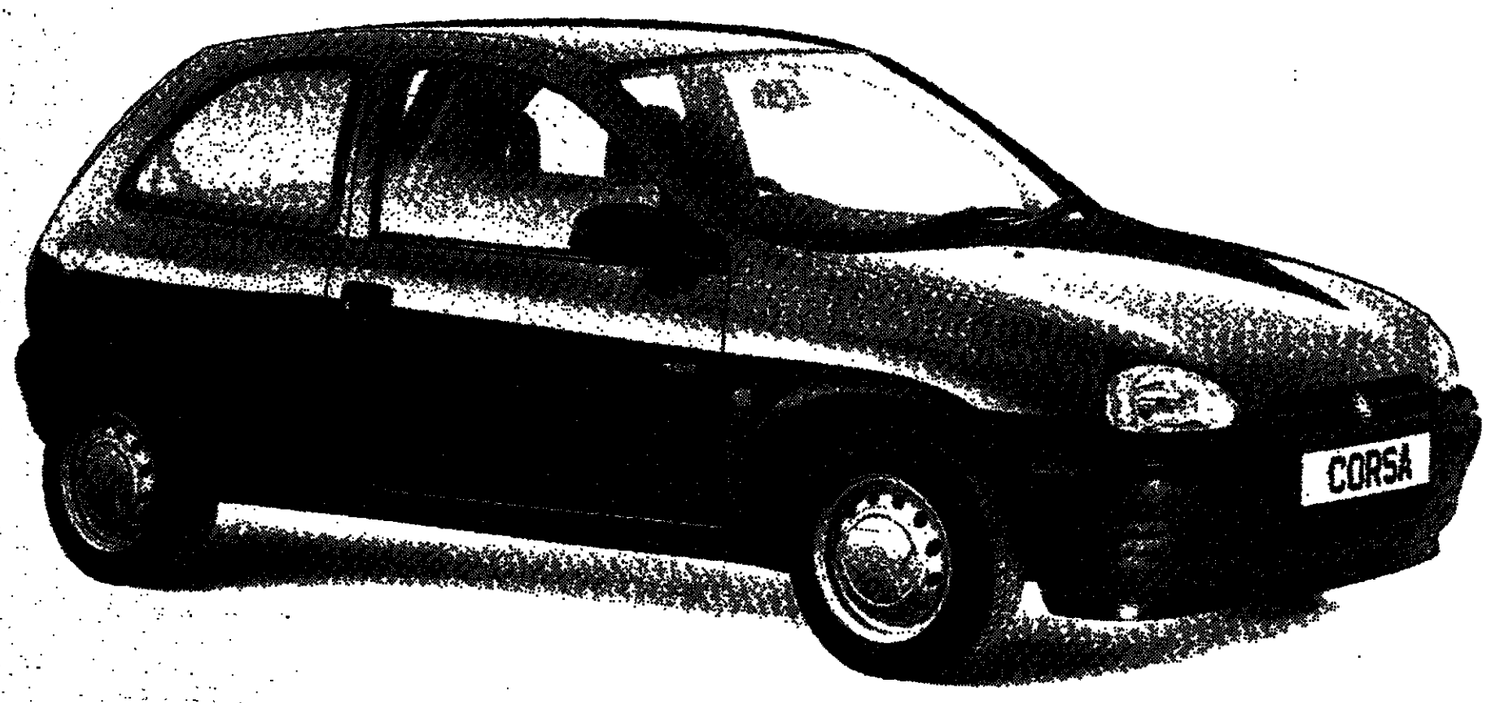
Somerfield/Gateway: fresh double cream (568ml), 95p.

Tesco: wholewheat muesli (1.5kg), £1.99; six mini Melton Mowbray pork pies at £1.09.

Waitrose: Supreme instant coffee (200g jar), £2.65.

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'No more dimples in Nevada desert'

Britain ends 40 years of nuclear test explosions

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN officially ended more than 40 years of nuclear testing yesterday by making a significant concession at the United Nations Conference on Disarmament.

Sir Michael Weston, Britain's Ambassador to the conference in Geneva, said the Government agreed to scrap the right to carry out underground explosions to check the safety and reliability of weapon systems. Although the Government is committed to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, during negotiations which began in January last year Britain and France demanded the right to continue conducting safety tests "in exceptional circumstances".

The demand was inserted into the rolling draft text of the treaty and was viewed by some members of the disarmament conference as a stumbling block in the crucial negotiations. It is hoped that a treaty may be ready for signing at the end of this year or early next year.

Yesterday's announcement appeared to take members of the conference by surprise and was widely welcomed. France has also agreed to give up safety tests.

The decision follows the announcement on Tuesday that the 100 remaining WE177 nuclear bombs carried by the RAF are to be scrapped by 1998, nine years earlier than planned, reducing Britain's nuclear firepower by 59 per cent since the 1970s.



Sir Michael Weston

Britain's last test, in the Nevada desert, was on November 26 1991. Another was planned for the autumn of 1992 but had to be shelved when the United States announced a moratorium on testing in October of that year. The moratorium has been renewed each year since then.

Since Britain relies on the American test facility, the Government had to put all test plans on hold. Once committed to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, Foreign Office officials admitted it made no sense to insist on the right to carry out safety and reliability tests.

Yesterday's formal announcement by Sir Michael indicates that the Ministry of Defence is now satisfied that all future safety tests can be carried out in the laboratory. The Atomic Weapons Establishment at Aldermaston in Berkshire can test the reliability of nuclear weapons using a method known as hydronuclear explosion, which involves tiny amounts of fissile material.

A Foreign Office official said: "We have now formally given up nuclear testing. There'll be no more dimples in the Nevada desert."

Patricia Lewis, director of the independent Verification Technology Information Centre, said the Geneva announcement was highly significant and timed to have maximum impact on the negotiations to extend the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, starting on April 17.

Britain began nuclear testing on October 3 1952 on the Monte Bello Islands off Australia in an operation codenamed Hurricane. Tests at the Maralinga site in South Australia began in 1953 and were codenamed Totem, Buffalo and Antler. H-bomb tests were also carried out on the Monte Bello Islands.

The nuclear tests in Nevada started in 1962 and the last one was conducted as part of a series to evaluate the British-designed warhead for the Trident ballistic missile.

In 40 years of testing, Britain has carried out a total of 44 explosions, of which 23 were underground at the Nevada site. The earlier tests were carried out in the atmosphere in Australia.

CHRIS HARRIS



The Queen meeting Commodore Ian Gibb, master of the *Oriana*, on the bridge

Oriana naming masks decline of naval heritage

BY JOE JOSEPH

"I NAME this ship *Oriana*," declared the Queen in Southampton yesterday as she smashed champagne on to the hull of P&O's new German-built flagship. "May God bless her and all who sail in her."

The traditional invocation camouflaged the fact that the tradition itself is all but dead: the last time the Queen named a British passenger liner was in 1967, when the *QE2* came slithering out of Clydebank — before the days when a British ship was launched in Germany and merely brought "home" for the champagne ceremony.

"Though built in Germany," the Queen added, acknowledging that the occasion perhaps required a footnote, "she is very much a British ship — British-owned, British registered and flying the red ensign — a reminder that for all the changes in the modern world we have never lost touch with our maritime heritage."

Nothing, not even the demise of Britain's shipyards, was allowed to mar the birthday of the 69,000 gross ton *Oriana*, the fastest cruise liner built for a quarter of a century, capable of topping 25 knots. A rusting Russian cargo liner, the *Blascobulk*, moored behind the £200 million *Oriana*, was moved so as not to sully photographs. A flock of small leisure craft came and bobbed by the ship's handsome prow until a harbour police launch sent them scurrying away.

The days when crowds of flag-waving well-wishers gathered to such an occasion have also died. The 2,500 at yesterday's ceremony were those who were great enough or good enough to secure an invitation.

Lord Sterling of Plaistow, P&O's chairman, explained that the name *Oriana* "was used by Elizabeth I's courtiers and madrigal writers to symbolise her virtue and popularity". The name's resurrection on the hull of P&O's flagship, he said, created a bridge between the two Elizabethan eras. A previous *Oriana* liner was built at Barrow-in-Furness and launched by Princess Alexandra in 1959 for the former Orient line.

After yesterday's launch the royal party attended a private lunch on board and toured the ship. On Sunday the *Oriana* leaves on her maiden cruise to Morocco, Gibraltar and Portugal. All berths were booked nine months ago.

Animal 'measles' virus killed horses and trainer

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE killer of 14 horses and their trainer has been identified as a distant relation of the measles virus. The outbreak of the disease in Australia last year created fears of a human epidemic.

The Australian team who tracked down the cause say the agent responsible is a morbillivirus and is the first known to cause human infections since measles emerged in the 10th century. The morbilli virus group includes the viruses responsible for a number of animal diseases, including canine distemper, seal plague virus and the cattle disease rinderpest.

The newly discovered virus kills by causing cells lining the blood vessels to clump, creating holes in the vessel walls so that they leak. Fluid pours into the lungs, causing severe breathing difficulties. Victims also suffer from a high fever.

The research, carried out by a team led by Dr Keith Murray of the Animal Health Laboratory in Geelong, near Melbourne, and reported in *Science*, shows that the virus, named EM (equine morbillivirus), is extremely virulent: it killed 70 per cent of the horses exposed to it and one of the two humans who caught it, the 49-year-old trainer Vic Rail. A stablehand was also infected but survived.

The team was able to isolate the EM virus from Mr Rail's kidneys, proving that he had died of the same disease as the horses. But it is not known where the virus came from or whether it will appear again. Dr Murray believes that it normally infects most Australian animals without causing disease, showing its potentially fatal characteristics only when transferring to horses and humans.

The next step is to catalogue every animal species in the Brisbane suburb, Cannon Hill, where the first horse succumbed, and examine blood samples to see if they contain the virus. The researchers hope they will be able to track down the animal host within six months.

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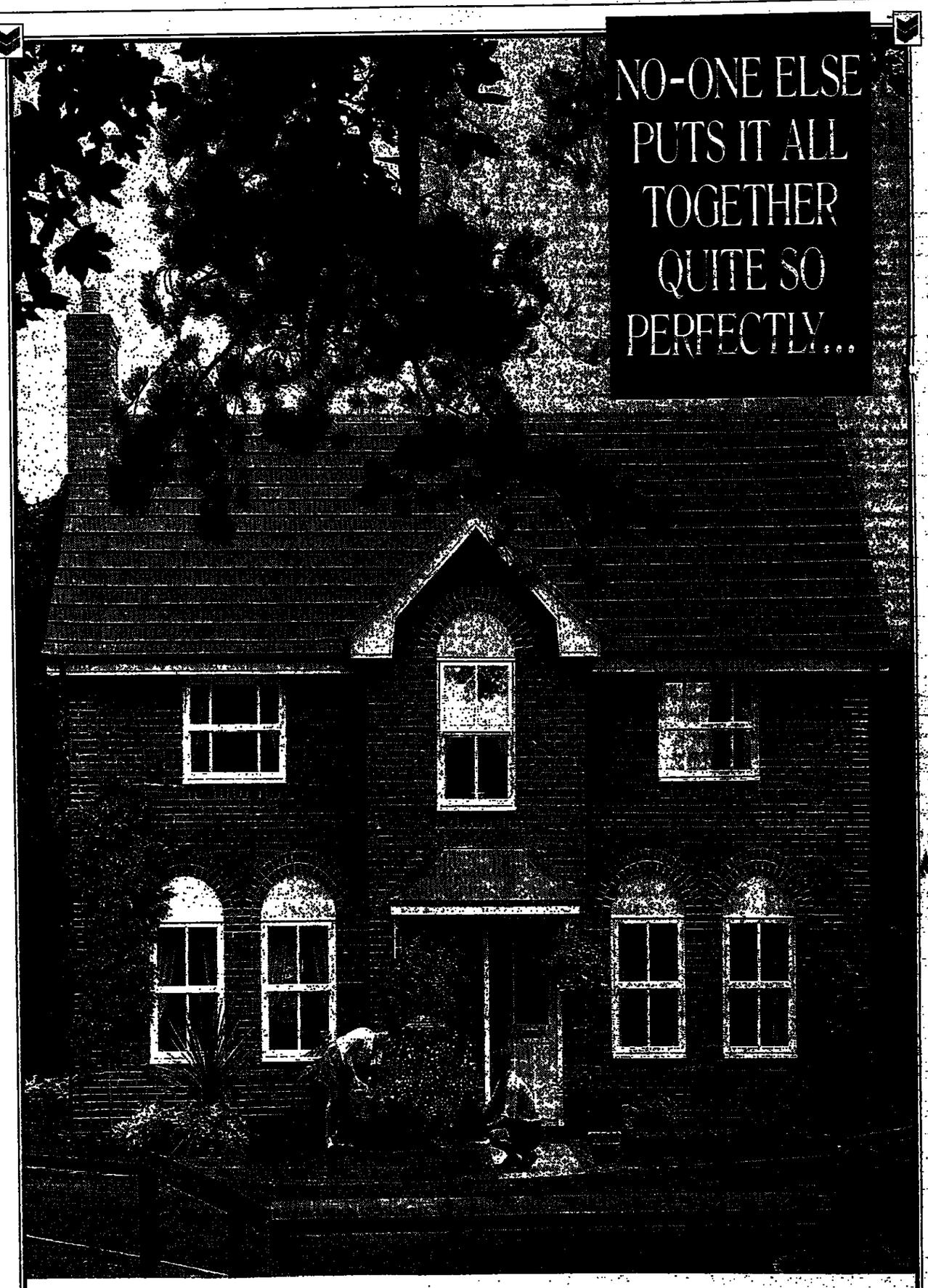
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Britain vetoes EU condemnation of Canada over fish

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN LUXEMBOURG AND GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

BRITAIN yesterday broke ranks with the majority of European Union member states in the fishing dispute with Canada, and vetoed a resolution strongly condemning a Canadian attack on two Spanish vessels in international waters on Wednesday night.

Michael Jack, the Fisheries Minister, said he could not support the resolution, which required unanimity, because it would have been counterproductive to the success of the negotiations between the two sides. He also said that accounts of the attacks on the Spanish vessels were based on "uncertain reports".

This was contradicted by the European Commission, which said yesterday that independent inspectors of the North-West Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (Nafo) had established that a Canadian patrol boat had cut the nets of one Spanish trawler.

Spanish radio quoted captains as saying that Canadian ships had tried to cut the nets of two trawlers and to board one. Jacques Roy, Canada's Ambassador to the EU, replied that there had been no contact with Spanish vessels, and no attempt to cut nets or board any ship.

But Mr Roy acknowledged that the situation off the Grand Banks in the northwest Atlantic remained tense and refused to confirm or deny whether Canadian ships had approached Spanish trawlers on Wednesday night.

"We have been conducting surveillance of the Spanish vessels quite closely and we have tried to show our disapproval," he said.

One incident appears to have brought two ships close together but never into contact. The captain of the Galician trawler *Ana Maria Gandon* told a radio station that a Canadian vessel tried to cut her nets four times but failed, and then came within two metres of the stern while trying to board. The European Commission called in Mr Roy and issued a statement in which it accused Canada of a flagrant violation of international law.

The transatlantic dispute over Greenland halibut began with the seizure of a Spanish trawler by the Canadians outside Canada's territorial waters. The EU has never accepted the seizure as legal.

At the Luxembourg meeting, most EU fisheries ministers rallied around Spain. In language reminiscent of the vituperative attacks on Canada last month, they debated a draft declaration, strongly opposed by Britain and Sweden, condemning Canada's action.

France, which holds the EU presidency, said it "condemned the latest actions, unilaterally carried out against vessels carrying the flag of a member state in violation of the rules of international law".

It added that EU ministers "deplored" Canada's decision to embark upon unilateral action at a delicate stage in the discussions between the EU and Canada.

France also renewed calls for Canada to repeal domestic legislation that allows Canadian patrol boats to operate outside Canada's 200-mile zone.

The British delegation appeared uncomfortable at the prospect of provoking another domestic backlash by supporting a resolution critical of Canada.

Canada responded to European Commission charges of "harassment" on the high seas by calling in ambassadors from the EU, Britain, Spain and Germany to protest over what Brian Tobin, Canada's Fisheries Minister, called "this absolutely false report by the Spanish fishing captain". Mr Tobin said that the European ambassadors were told to check with the Canadian Government any allegations that Canada had harassed the Spanish, and called the EU actions "improper and foolish". He added: "It is irresponsible for the EU to have acted in the way it has." For his part, Mr Roy has also signalled that Canada is ready to make only one further concession in the peace talks and appears to have turned down appeals from Brussels for more flexibility. He hinted that Canada might give ground over its unilateral declaration to control fishing beyond the 200-mile limit but on nothing else.

The accord that is now being drafted gives the EU and Canada equal portions of the 27,000 tonnes of Greenland halibut to be caught in the disputed zone in a year. Both sides have also agreed that fishing will be monitored both by satellite, and by posting inspectors on trawlers. The outstanding discord concerns the size of the Canada catch.



Fishermen demonstrate against what they consider Canadian piracy outside Canada's Embassy in Madrid yesterday

Protesters bombard Madrid embassy

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

SEVERAL thousand fishermen, incensed by alleged Canadian harassment of Spanish trawlers, pelted the Canadian Embassy in Madrid with dead fish and eggs yesterday.

Police with plastic shields formed a cordon in front of the embassy and officials there hurriedly hauled in the red and white Canadian flag. Riot police and organisers were stained with egg yolk, and fish littered the ground. No injuries or arrests were reported.

Enrique Davila, captain of the *Estai*, the trawler seized by Canadian authorities on March 9, demanded that the European Union take "a courageous position". He said during the demonstration that the Spanish Government was doing a poor job of defending fishermen's rights. "We are up against a government of delinquents ... the Canadians are the pirates of the oceans in the 21st century. We want Canada to abandon its absurd and backward recourse to aggression. They're trying to carry out a medieval conquest of the fishing ground by seizing our boats."

The crowd later marched on the EU office in Madrid for a further demonstration.

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EUROPEAN SUMMARY

Ancient gospels are stolen

Stockholm: Two men used teargas to fend off guards and visitors as they stole two pages from a sixth-century manuscript of the gospels, known as the Silver Bible, on exhibition in Uppsala University library near here.

The manuscript, looted from Prague by Swedish troops in 1648, was a translation into the Gothic language and was written with gold and silver ink. The manuscript is one of the few extant written remnants of the language. Other pages of the manuscript are stored elsewhere in the library. *(AP)*

TV ruling aids superhighway

Brussels: The European Court of Justice, in a ruling that could affect the future of the information superhighway, told television stations that they had no right to prevent an independent company from publishing their programme listings.

Lawyers said the ruling in the so-called Magill case was a significant victory for consumers and free competition as it meant copyright owners could be forced to license their product to rivals. *(Reuter)*

Bomb 'not cause of air crash'

Bucharest: There was no evidence that a bomb or terrorists caused last Friday's crash of a Romanian Airbus, which killed 60 people, Elio Di Rupo, the Belgian Communications Minister, said after meeting investigators here yesterday. A final verdict on the cause of the crash, in which 32 Belgians died, will not be known until after analysis of the digital data on the A310 aircraft's flight systems. *(Reuter)*

'Shamed' Turk kills his sisters

Bonn: A Turkish man killed himself after killing his two sisters out of shame for their Western lifestyles. Police said the women, aged 20 and 21, died instantly when their brother, 30, shot them as they visited their parents. Family members told police that the man "felt his honour as the older brother had been deeply tainted". *(Reuter)*

Chirac harvests the fruits of odyssey in rural heartland

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BREST, BRITTANY

HIGH on the bluff over the bay of Saint Brieuc on the north Breton coast, a band of excited little boys pressed their noses to a plate glass window as they peered in on the man they were calling "President Chirac".

The term was fitting because inside the classroom of the marine nature centre, Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist presidential favourite, was listening like a visiting ruler to the rival petitions of farmers, fishermen and ecologists. Fertiliser running off the fields is killing France's richest scallop grounds, the fishermen complained. Brussels and red tape are killing the land, the farmers grumbled.

The candidate took long notes before delivering an energetic homily on the twin scourges of pollution and technocracy which he says are plaguing the country. France's



Chirac: new image as a serene "Grand Jacques"

"environmental house is on fire", he said, promising to tackle the blaze. If he becomes President, he will also create a great new ministry of the sea, he promised.

The hour in the sunlit classroom, which followed a meeting with managers at an inland factory for the handicapped, offered a snapshot of the formula that seems likely to carry M Chirac to the victory in the presidential race that he has been seeking for the past 20 years. Two weeks from the first round, the Mayor of Paris is harvesting the fruit of a two-year odyssey in which he has visited almost all of the 95 *départements*, "working the soil" of France.

While Edouard Balladur, his protégé, won the limelight in the Prime Minister's job and was encouraged by the polls to nurture his own ambitions, M Chirac withdrew to campaign quietly at the grassroots, running the risk of political oblivion.

A tall man with expansive gestures and an engaging manner, he has listened tirelessly, as he did in Brittany this week, at hundreds of round tables, microphone in one hand, a pen in the other and deep concern on his face. He has wolfed down the local cuisine, knocked back the local beer and done his best to convince every citizen that their troubles are his. "Chirac has made so many promises that it will take a CD-Rom to store them all," a Balladur man grumbled this week as the veteran of two prime ministerial terms sailed on in his new incarnation as saviour of the people.

The latest polls show M Chirac's lead sagging further or holding steady fewer than half a dozen points ahead of M Balladur and Lionel Jospin, the Socialist candidate. All project him as the easy winner in the run-off, due on May 7.

Entering the final stretch of his race, M Chirac has left far behind his old image as an ambitious hothead in favour of an aura of statesmanship. The serene "Grand Jacques" was in evidence as he progressed across the rolling countryside of Brittany in a Peugeot van with none of the rush and noisy escorts of M Balladur's jaunts. His team is planning for the run-off, hoping that M Jospin, not M Balladur, will be the opponent, thus sparing the Gaullists the ultimate family feud.

They are also quietly sketching a government, almost certain to be headed by Alain Juppé, the present Foreign Minister and interim Gaullist chief. Gone will be Charles Pasqua and the other "traitors" who threw in their lot with M Balladur. With a Chirac victory in the wind, many a turncoat is seeking pardon, to the wry amusement of the candidate and his team. "The ones who were trying to get him to withdraw only a few weeks ago are now turning up to meet the aircraft," one lieutenant said.

Publicly, however, M Chirac is all humility as he struggles to avoid the gaffes to which he is prone and the complacency that sank M Balladur's early campaign. "Nothing is decided until election night," he said when he reached Brest, the port city on the western tip of Finisterre. "The people will decide on Europe and everything else."

Nato team for Croatia

Brussels: Nato ambassadors yesterday authorised the deployment in Croatia of 80 military personnel from the alliance to prepare for a United Nations withdrawal from Bosnia if necessary, diplomatic and military sources said.

The personnel are communications experts, mainly from Britain and the United States, and will be under UN command, the sources said, emphasising that the decision to send them to Croatia does not suggest that the 24,000-strong UN force in Bosnia will be withdrawn. The UN had issued a warning that it might have to pull out of Bosnia when Croatia threatened earlier this year to expel UN peacekeepers.

Croatia later relented and allowed a reduced UN force with a new mandate that was approved last week by the UN. Croatia's ports and other infrastructure are crucial to supplying the UN in Bosnia. *(AFP)*

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Gummer orders fish study after US warming alert

FROM NICK NUTTALL
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT
IN BERLIN

SALMON and trout are likely to disappear from some of the world's finest rivers if global temperatures continue to rise as scientists predict.

The findings, released at the Berlin climate summit yesterday, come from American scientists and economists who have been studying the impact of global warming on freshwater fish.

It shows a steady loss of species from American rivers and streams sweeping up from Texas and California into the Midwest and New England states as temperatures rise in the 21st century in line with computer forecasts. Adam Markham, of the World Wide Fund for Nature, said: "These results are equally significant for British freshwater fish."

Last night, John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, promised to step up studies on rivers in Britain. Famous salmon and trout rivers in Britain include the Itchen and the Avon in Hampshire, whose fish stocks have been declining recently for reasons still unclear to scientists. "The health of fish is a key

CLIMATE SUMMIT



indicator for the quality and stability of water. I have no doubt the work done in America will lead me to want to accelerate our research," Mr Gummer said.

He said the findings showed how changes of as little as a tenth of one degree centigrade can interfere with the balance of nature, altering fish spawning and bird migrations.

The damage to freshwater fish, estimated at billions of dollars in the United States alone from lost fishing permits and sales, has been assessed by researchers with the American Environmental Protection Agency. An official with the agency said yesterday that the research was launched to assess the impact of riverside power stations, which emit hot water, on angling and freshwater stocks. "We have gone back to these and have done some field work to identify what will happen to fish across the United States. In the lower part of the United States many species of fish will no longer exist. In the north, cold water fish are replaced by warm water ones." Warm water species include catfish and bass.

Delegates from 100 nations are meeting in Berlin to try to agree tough new targets for cutting greenhouse gases beyond the year 2000. Mr Gummer said a glimmer of light had emerged during the negotiations. A European Union document, aimed at balancing the concerns of the United States with those of the developing world, appeared to be easing the deadlock.

Mr Gummer issued a warning that for the European Union to maintain its leadership on climate change, member states' plans to cut emissions needed to scrutinised. At the moment Greece, whose emissions are expected to rise by at least a third by 2000, has no credible plan. Spain's attempt to stabilise emissions by 2000 was now off course because it had mothballed two nuclear power stations. Germany was heading for bigger reductions than anticipated, which is helping to offset the excess pollution from the southern European nations, officials said.

A partial breakthrough was achieved yesterday with delegates agreeing to back studies into "joint implementation" — a strategy which would allow rich polluting nations to offset their emissions by paying for energy-efficient schemes and forestry projects in the developing world.

Kamal Nath, India's Environment Minister, reaffirmed the position of the developing nations. He said that the rich northern countries had for too long been "'free riding" on the backs of the Third World. "This is the difference between the luxury emissions of the United States and the survival emissions of India," Mr Nath said.

He said that in the United States the pollution issues centred on whether a family chose between one or two cars. In India, it was a question of getting a square meal.

Letters, page 19



A Moscow worker repairs a Soviet-era sculpture for the May 9 celebrations of the Allies' victory in the Second World War. President Jiang Zemin of China is the latest world leader to agree to attend

Turkish army will pull out of Iraq 'in weeks'

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

TURKEY will pull its troops out of northern Iraq "within weeks", Hikmet Cetin, the country's Deputy Prime Minister said yesterday. However, he hinted that troops may stay on the border between Turkey and Iraq even after Ankara's military campaign against Kurdish guerrillas ends.

"We will see how we can protect our border," Mr Cetin said after talks with Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary in London. He denied that Turkey was planning to create a buffer zone in the region.

Mr Cetin was in London as part of a Turkish attempt to fend off international criticism of the military action. His visit came as the European Parliament condemned the campaign by 35,000 Turkish troops, and repeated that it would withhold approval of a Customs Union between the European Union and Turkey.

In what were said to be blunt talks between the two men, Mr Hurd called for an early withdrawal and said the Turkish campaign was damaging Ankara's relationship with other European states.

Mr Cetin emphasised that his country wanted to pull back, but would not do so until it had cleared Kurdish guerrilla training bases from the region. "Iraq cannot exercise legal authority in northern Iraq and we have the right to do this," he said. "Whatever the cost is, we have to have peace."

Britain is anxious to know if Turkey has an exit strategy, and how and when it might be implemented.

Mr Cetin also shrugged off criticism that western journalists are not allowed free access to Kurdish separatist areas of southeast Turkey. "There are some problems in the area, I am not denying it," he said. "There is a misunderstanding in western countries." Normally, he added, there was "no problem".

Erdal Inonu, the Turkish Foreign Minister, was in Washington meanwhile, meeting Warren Christopher, the American Secretary of State. Linking a target date for a withdrawal to a visit by Tansu Ciller, the Turkish Prime Minister, to America next week, a senior US official said: "Our feeling is the visit would be more productive and fruitful if ..., there was a commitment to a date."

Up to 6,000 Turkish troops were reported yesterday to have pulled out of two of their main bases in northwest Iraq, including a palace built for President Saddam Hussein.

Leading article, page 19

Latvians to move refugees from train

Riga: Maris Gailis, the Latvian Prime Minister, said yesterday that Riga would bow to international demands and move about 100 Middle Eastern refugees, including about 40 children, from a crowded train to a holding camp after efforts to deport them to Russia failed.

"It seems we have to make them a camp and deal with these people the way other countries do," he said. "We had hoped the Russians would take them." Mr Gailis added that a last-ditch diplomatic attempt to convince Moscow to accept the group had failed.

The Government had decided to transfer the refugees to an open prison in Olaine, 15 miles south of Riga. Mr Gailis said he had been troubled by international criticism of Riga's decision to leave the two railway carriages containing the group for over a week on a siding in poor conditions.

Although Latvia was not party to international refugee conventions, he said the country planned to adopt a system of humanitarian asylum used in Austria to deal with refugees from the war in former Yugoslavia. The Interior Ministry said a special area would be set aside within the prison for the refugees. *(Reuter)*

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'I am of the opinion there are crimes so violent and heinous that capital punishment is proper'

Parole chief looked killer in the eye and rejected plea

BY BEN MACINTYRE IN JACKSON, GEORGIA, AND DOMINIC KENNEDY

HAVING raised hopes of a last-minute reprieve for Nicholas Ingram by insisting on a face-to-face meeting with the condemned man, J. Wayne Garner, the maverick chairman of Georgia's Board of Pardons and Paroles, dashed them yesterday by voting with his fellow board members to uphold the death sentence.

It was, say local observers, a characteristically unorthodox move by the former Democratic state senator and ex-undertaker who has made a career and a name for himself in Georgia by his non-conformist attitude. Even his staff were forced to admit that the decision to interview Ingram on the eve of execution was "rather extraordinary".

With just 24 hours before Ingram was due to go to the electric chair, Mr Garner announced that he could not, in good conscience, pass a ruling on whether the British-born convicted murderer should die before he had "looked him in the eyes".

Mr Garner, 42, also spoke on the telephone to Mary Sawyer, the wife of Ingram's victim, before deciding there were no grounds to commute the death sentence to life imprisonment.

Mr Garner spent last week on holiday in Britain where he told his host that Nick Ingram had been convicted of "a particularly nasty murder" and he wanted to buy a British coffin for his funeral parlour in America as a souvenir. Sightseeing in London, he was particularly keen to inspect the Tower. A strict Baptist, Mr Garner insisted on grace before meals at the Garth Cottage Hotel near Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, where he spent last weekend. He told the family of hoteliers that he had just bought an £80,000 Cadillac limousine for important funerals.

Mr Garner resigned as a state senator when he was elected chairman of the pardons board in 1994. He said his philosophy was "victims first, criminals second".

He and his wife, Jerri, were on a family holiday in London and the Welsh borders with their teenage son and two other families from Georgia.

"He was more interested in contacting a local undertaker here than talking about his work," said Val Eden, a hotelier. She mentioned to Mr Garner that a man was due to be executed next week and he admitted that he was on the parole board. Mrs Eden, a supporter of capital punishment, asked what the killer had done.

"He said it was a particularly nasty murder. He tied the husband and his wife to a tree. He shot the husband and just grazed the wife's head. She was able to identify him because he didn't do a good enough job. If she hadn't lived they would probably never have known who had done it. That's what he said."

She had told Mr Garner, in return: "He deserves it, doesn't he?" Yesterday, in a low Southern drawl, Mr Garner announced at a press conference that Ingram's "punishment fits the crime", eliminating what Ingram's lawyers have called his "last, best hope" for a reprieve.

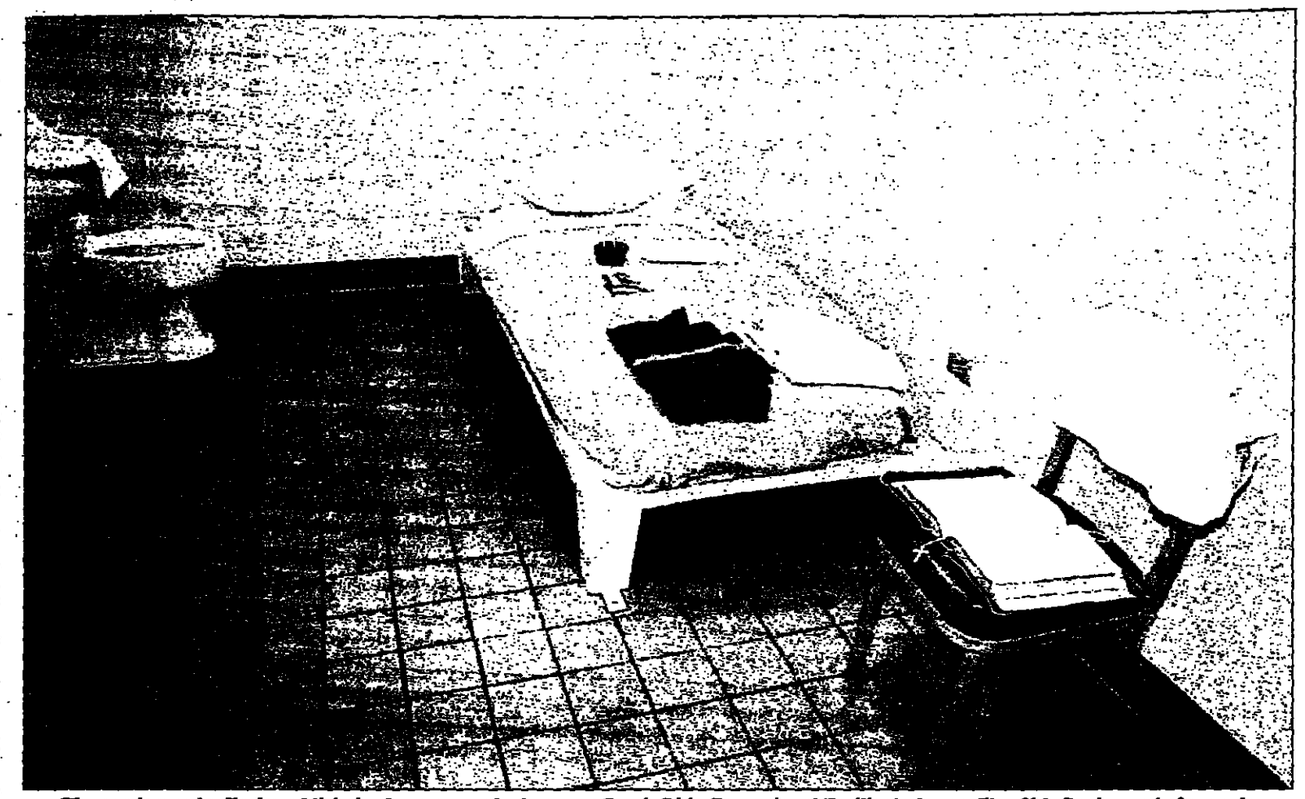
"I have been a supporter of capital punishment," Mr Garner said. "I'm of the opinion that there are crimes so violent and so heinous that it is proper. Days like yesterday are long and very tough. But I can tell you, it was a long and tough day for the Sawyers."

The five-member board (of which one member was absent) is appointed by Georgia's Governor, and includes a former commissioner of the prison service, a businessman and two former public servants. They voted unanimously to confirm the sentence.

Mr Garner, acting in his first case as board chairman, spoke privately for 20 minutes with Ingram in a special cell in the hospital wing of the prison adjoining the execution chamber, and while he refused to disclose the substance of their conversation he was clearly unimpressed by the interview.

"He was very nervous," Mr Garner said.

Martin Fletcher, page 18
Leading article, page 19



The condemned cell where Nicholas Ingram awaited news at South Ohio Correctional Facility in Lucasville of his final round of appeals



'Old Sparky': Georgia's electric chair

Electric chair born out of corporate battle

BY BEN MACINTYRE AND MARTIN FLETCHER

THE invention of the electric chair came about through the strange mixture of two, usually contradictory, American theories: the humanitarian and the entrepreneurial.

When the first electric chair was built, in New York in 1888, many believed that modern science had perfected a way to dispatch criminals which avoided the messy and degrading business of hanging. "Old Sparky", as the machine soon became known, appeared to be the quintessential Victorian invention — clean, quick, humane and cheap — combining inventiveness with compassion, at least in theory.

But the use of the electric chair arose more directly from a bitter corporate battle between two of the founding fathers of electricity, Thomas Edison and George Westinghouse. Edison believed that direct current was the way of the future, not least because he held the patents on this form of electricity and was aware of the profits to be made when the device found widespread acceptance.

Westinghouse, however, was a supporter of alternating current. So, in a typical piece of corporate mud-slinging, Edison began insisting that alternating current was far more lethal and thus the best type of electricity with which to construct an electric chair — the implication being that the electricity produced by Westinghouse's generator was too dangerous to have in the home. Edison dubbed it the "executioner's current", to Westinghouse's fury. Several dogs, and even horses, were sacrificed in efforts to prove which current was deadlier.

Edison secretly obtained a Westinghouse generator in Rio de Janeiro to set up the first electric chair, and Westinghouse paid $100,000 (£62,5000) towards the defence of its first intended victim. While Edison might be slyly promoting the lethal effects of his rival's electricity, others were not convinced. Only 25 of the American states have experimented with the electric chair.

Only six states still continue to use it: Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Indiana, Nebraska and South Carolina. Georgia's electric chair, made of oak and leather, was built in 1924.

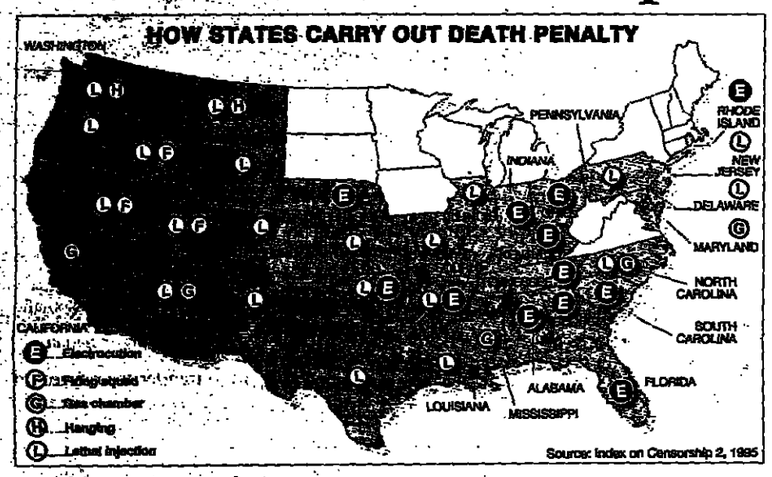
The death penalty was restored constitutionally in 1976, and has gathered momentum. There are now nearly 3,000 Americans on death row. The number of executions has also risen, though not nearly fast enough to keep pace with the increase in convictions. The first execution was in 1977. There were 11 in 1988, a record 38 in 1993, and 14 in just the first three months of this year.

In all, 271 Americans have been put to death by lethal injection, electrocution, the gas chamber, hanging or, in one case, the firing squad since 1976. The vast majority of these have taken place in a handful of Southern states led by Texas with 93 and Florida with 33, but the practice is spreading.

Twenty-four states have now performed executions. California carried out its first execution in 1990, and last month New York became the 38th state to reinstate the death penalty.

Public support has also continued to rise. The Gallup organisation recorded 66 per cent in favour in 1976. By last autumn that figure had risen to 80 per cent.

What makes those figures surprising is that there is precious little evidence that the death penalty has done anything to deter violent crime.



America defies trend against ultimate penalty

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

AMERICA is almost the last Western country to carry out the death penalty, with the whole of Western Europe, Canada and Australia having abandoned the practice.

Two-thirds of former Soviet bloc nations retain capital punishment, however, including the increasingly popular tourist destinations of Poland, Romania and Bulgaria, along with Russia itself.

Some Western European countries, including Britain, still provide for the death penalty in exceptional circumstances, such as in wartime. Belgium has the penalty on its statute books, but no one has been executed there since 1950.

The trend is towards abandoning the ultimate punishment, with 97 of the world's 184 countries retaining the death penalty, compared with 101 in 1988.

Last year, 2,331 prisoners are known to have been executed in 37 countries — although Amnesty International believes the true figure to be higher — and another 1,701 were sentenced to die in 75 countries.

Just three countries accounted for 87 per cent of all recorded executions last year: China, which put to death 1,791 people; Iran 139; and Nigeria, more than 100. Hundreds were also reported to have been executed in Iraq.

One of the quirks of execution figures is that countries which have abandoned the practice are not necessarily the most stable. Rwanda and Burundi, for instance, countries afflicted by some of the worst ethnic violence in post-war history, are regarded as having abolished capital punishment since they have not executed anyone since 1982. War crimes trials after last year's massacres are likely to change that.

The break-up of Yugoslavia has brought divisions on the issue in the Balkans: Serbia, Montenegro and Bosnia have retained the penalty, while Croatia, Macedonia and Slovenia have abolished it. In the Middle East, only Israel and Bahrain do not put people to death, with the penalty being retained under Islamic law in the rest of the region.

In Asia and the Pacific, the law varies widely. Hong Kong, Cambodia and Australia have abolished the death penalty, while Japan, Thailand and Pakistan, as well as China, are notorious executioners. South and Central American countries, which have had some of the world's most repressive regimes, have all abandoned capital punishment with the exception of Guatemala and Belize.

The death penalty remains in force in many Caribbean islands, including Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados and St Lucia. Jamaica was the most recent country to defy attempts by the Privy Council to stop executions.

"The trend is towards abolition," Richard Bunting, of Amnesty International, said yesterday. "The US stands virtually alone in the Western world in executing people. More and more countries recognise that the death penalty is wrong and ineffective — violence breeds violence."

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Gingrich wraps up legislative blitz ahead of schedule

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

WITH a thumping victory on the tenth and final Bill in Newt Gingrich's *Contract with America*, House Republicans have completed their radical programme for the first 100 days of this new Congress a week ahead of schedule.

By 246 votes to 188 on Wednesday night, the House approved what the Speaker called the *Contract's* "crown jewel" — a Bill offering $189 billion (£118 billion) worth of tax breaks to families and businesses over the next five years.

"With this Bill, the tax-raising legacy of President Clinton and his party are over," proclaimed Bill Archer, the Republican author of the legislation. Earlier in the day, Mr Gingrich had celebrated the *Contract's* completion in typically flamboyant style. He had a troupe of elephants from a visiting Ringling Brothers circus parade back and forth in front of the Capitol, the elephant being the Republican party's symbol.

House Republicans today hold an $80,000 rally on the Capitol steps where they first signed the *Contract*, and tonight Mr Gingrich makes a presidential-style broadcast to the nation to boast of his accomplishments. In one sense his bragging is premature. The more cautious, moderate Senate will not approve the *Contract* in anything like its present form. Even those measures it does pass face the threat of a presidential veto.

The Senate has already rejected the *Contract's* centrepiece, a constitutional amendment mandating a balanced federal budget. It is expected to approve only modest tax cuts, and will substantially revise Mr Gingrich's radical welfare reforms. So far it has approved just three of the *Contract's* other *Bills* — measures making Congress subject to private-sector employment laws, preventing it imposing costly mandates on states without proper funding, and enabling the President to cut wasteful items without vetoing entire spending Bills.

But Mr Gingrich's accomplishments are none the less substantial. After years of paralysis, the House has completed a legislative blitz of a sort not seen since the 1933 Congress rushed through President Roosevelt's emergency legislation to alleviate the Great Depression.

Despite having a majority of just 26, the Republicans have passed all but one of the *Contract's* ten bills, the exception being a constitutional amendment limiting congressional terms. Most important, Mr Gingrich has utterly transformed the political debate. For the first time in 60 years Washington has slowed the relentless growth of federal spending and returned power to the states.

The "Republican revolution" has left Mr Clinton looking almost peripheral. He and his fellow Democrats have proposed few new initiatives of their own, resorting instead to dire warnings of how the Republicans plan to dismantle government programmes that Americans value in their efforts to help the rich.

Mr Clinton, who won election in 1992 by promising "change", has thus become the defender of the status quo. The President who campaigned as "the man from Hope" now preaches fear, portraying himself as the last bulwark against Mr Gingrich and a conservatism running amok.

However, recent polls make sobering reading for the Republicans. Barely two-fifths of respondents know what the *Contract* is. Mr Gingrich is unpopular and distrusted. A *Washington Post* survey showed 59 per cent believed the Republicans would go too far in their cuts, while only 34 per cent faulted the Democrats for seeking to preserve costly programmes.

America tackles DIY spies

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

AMERICAN law and order forces have launched a crackdown on the burgeoning do-it-yourself espionage business.

Federal agents swooped on 40 so-called "spy shops" in 24 cities across the country this week in an effort to keep illegal eavesdropping equipment out of the hands of drug dealers and other criminals.

Among the high-tech gadgets seized were scores of tiny Japanese-made transmitters hidden inside ballpoint pens, calculators and telephone jacks. Fifteen people, including three Japanese businessmen, were charged in what prosecutors described as an international scheme to smuggle illegal devices into the United States.

"This prosecution should cripple the sources of supply of these devices in the United States," said Mary Jo White, the US Attorney in Manhattan. "These illegal bugging and wiretapping devices are being used to deprive Americans of privacy, and to carry out such crimes as drug dealing, corporate espionage and kidnapping."

Law enforcement agencies are concerned that the equipment is being used to thwart police investigations, particularly by drug traffickers. Officials cite the discovery of a transmitter in a shipment of Colombian cocaine, which alerted the drug lords to the presence of anti-drug agents.

Two of the people charged after Wednesday's raids remain in Japan. One suspect arrested in New York was a Japanese executive of Micro Electronic Industries Co. Ltd. of Tokyo, described as the largest exporter of illegal listening devices to America.

Former UN leader gathers support

Peru's elder statesman taps protest in race for presidency

FROM GABRIELLA GAMINI IN CUZCO, PERU

CROWDS packed the colonial square in Cuzco to show eleventh-hour support for Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the former United Nations Secretary-General seeking to become Peru's next President.

"We are behind him because he is a grandfatherly figure whom we can trust, and who can give Peru a better international image," said Flores Idaldo, a teacher, waving at Señor Pérez de Cuéllar, 74 as he made his closing campaign speech here before Sunday's election.

The elderly diplomat is gathering votes in most urban centres across southern Peru, such as Cuzco, a colonial town cradled in a valley surrounded by Andean peaks. Built on the sumptuous remains of Inca temples and palaces, it is also Peru's biggest tourist attraction.

"This is where the Incas harboured their treasures centuries ago. I want to begin building a new Peru from here," said Señor Pérez de Cuéllar.

He has emerged as President Fujimori's biggest rival. Until last month, it looked as if Señor Fujimori would slip easily back into power because of his Government's success at curbing inflation and stemming the terror campaign by the Maoist Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) rebels, who have claimed 27,000 lives in a decade.

But just days before the elections, opinion polls showed Señor Pérez de Cuéllar could prevent Señor Fujimori from winning an outright majority in the first round, and therefore force a run-off in June.

The hub of Señor Pérez de Cuéllar's support is among professionals in the wealthier regions and in agricultural areas not badly affected by terrorism. He is gathering the protest votes from people opposed to Señor Fujimori's authoritarian style of leadership.

The President's estranged wife, Susana Higuchi, who publicly accused her husband of being a "corrupt dictator" after he dabbled with the constitution to rule by decree and passed a law barring her from politics, has promised her vote to the former diplomat.

"We need a more democratic government which will heighten our country's credibility," said Michel Ascueta, campaign manager for Señor Pérez de Cuéllar's centrist Union Por el Peru (Union for Peru) party. "Fujimori has been running a one-man operation and tried to clamp down on all voices of dissent."

Señor Ascueta, a left-wing activist who was badly injured by a Sendero bomb attack, seems an unlikely ally for Señor Pérez de Cuéllar's party. But he said he joined the campaign because the party "has emerged as the only force capable of installing democratic principles".

Señor Pérez de Cuéllar has also capitalised on growing discontent about unemployment and poverty. More than half of Peru's 22 million people live below the poverty line.

Señor Pérez de Cuéllar's "international" background, however, could be a disadvantage, alienating Peru's largely poor Quechua Indian population. Another international figure, the novelist Mario Vargas Llosa, who had seemed set to win the elections in 1990, lost to the then little known Señor Fujimori.



Señor Pérez de Cuéllar greets a crowd of supporters at an election rally in Cuzco

Mayor faces FBI inquiry into poll funds

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE corruption scandal that plagued his last term in office has returned to haunt Marion Barry, the Mayor of Washington, as federal prosecutors prepared yesterday to go before a grand jury with allegations that his wife had diverted campaign funds for his re-election to her family.

FBI agents and the Washington police launched investigations earlier this week into claims by the mayor's former housekeeper that her son was used as a channel by Cora Masters Barry to divert campaign contributions to her brother, Walter Masters.

Barbara Mouring, the housekeeper, and her son Darin, 17, were in protective custody yesterday after she had alleged that a member of the mayor's security team and two other officers had threatened her.

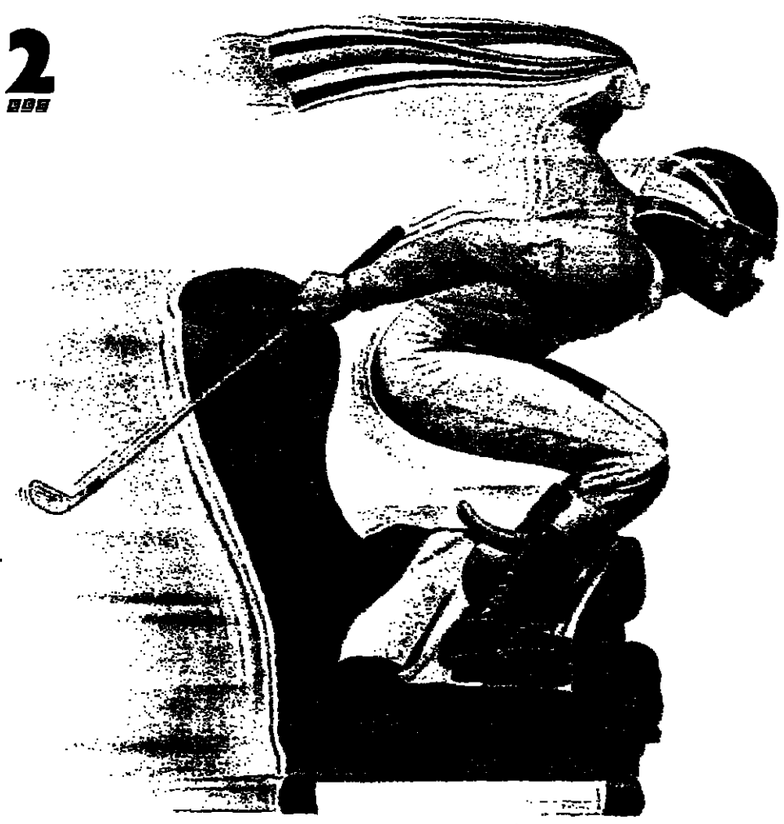
Records show that the teenager was paid $2,000 (£1,250) in October by a political action committee supporting Mr Barry's re-election campaign, but the Mourings say he never worked for the group. Instead, they claim that Mrs Barry told them to cash the cheque and hand the money to her brother.

After journalists questioned Mrs Barry about the allegations, Mrs Mouring says she was taken to a house in Washington by Ulysses Walltower, one of Mr Barry's security men. Fred Gaskins, a retired police officer, and one other officer. She said they told her to retract the claims or face retaliation.

While Mr Barry's supporters believe Mrs Mouring is pursuing a vendetta against the mayor, for whom she stopped working in February, lawyers are taking her accusations seriously and have prepared papers for a grand jury investigation.

Mr Barry, whose previous 12 years in office were tarnished by corruption and ended in jail after FBI cameras caught him on film smoking crack cocaine in a hotel room, said last year that he had found God and promised to rebuild a clean federal capital.

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Day of the dead in Kigali stains image of Rwanda

*A year after genocide was unleashed by the Rwandan leader's death; **Peter Smerdon** recalls the first few hours of carnage*

THE memories of a rainy, shameful day with the dead and dying at Kigali Central Hospital, almost a year ago during Rwanda's genocide, will never fade. They also reinforce deep doubts that the international community would intervene to stop killing on a similar scale should it erupt in neighbouring Burundi to the south.

Dumped at the back of the hospital a year ago in Rwanda's capital were hundreds of corpses, seven deep. At one end, on the top, were two young Tutsi men gargling blood from slit throats, moaning and trying to escape from the pile. They pushed on the bodies and raised their faces before their strength waned, their arms gave way and they dropped back into the mound of dead.

Minutes before, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) workers and journalists had watched dumbstruck near the gates as Hutu soldiers walked up behind the two men, pulled out bayonets and slashed at them until they fell to their knees.

Hospital officials hustled us around a corner. We stood in the rain a few yards from the two men and tried to think what to do while soldiers prowled nearby.

"We must do something," I said, without knowing what. The ICRC's medical co-ordinator reached out, felt the pulses of both men and said: "They're going to die anyway."

If we picked them up it was almost certain the soldiers who had slit their throats would kill them. Minutes passed before the ICRC called the Rwandan Red Cross by radio, reported the two were still alive and asked for them to be collected.

But with tens of thousands of dead and wounded lying in homes, churches and on roadsides across Kigali and more being butchered every minute, we doubted the response would be swift. We walked away to start moving hundreds of wounded Tutsis out of the wards and onto ICRC lorries to drive them outside Kigali in the hope they would escape massacre.

During the few minutes we had watched the two men, more troops began loitering at the hospital gates. We feared they would kill the wounded as we carried them past.

Suddenly, two four-wheel-drive vehicles full of French commandos pulled up. We became instant supporters of international intervention as an officer jumped out and greeted the ICRC co-ordinator, who explained the tense situation.

"Are the wounded Hutus or Tutsis?" the officer asked. The ICRC co-ordinator, overwhelmed by relief, broke a rule of confidentiality on such matters and told him they were Tutsis. The officer stunned us by replying he was on a mission to tour several areas during the evacuation of French and other foreigners; the commandos pulled out hurriedly. The group of Rwandan troops resumed growing.

Eventually, the ICRC chief delegate met the Defence Minister of the interim Government and brought back a piece of paper and a lone Rwandan army officer. The scribbled note authorised evacuation of the 200 wounded to Gitarama to the southwest. The menacing soldiers dispersed slowly and we loaded the terrified wounded onto the lorries without incident.

As we prepared to leave, a lorry-load of convicts in pink uniforms drove into the hospital and down to the pile of corpses and the two young men. The Rwandan Red Cross had still not arrived.

About half an hour later, the lorry drove out of the gates, filled with bodies of men, women and children which the Hutu Government had ordered removed and dumped in mass graves.

To this day, we do not know whether the two men were still alive when they were thrown into the lorry full of dead. But we fear that since they were on top of the pile, they would have been removed first and would have been pinned down by the rest. *(Reuter)*

Rwanda postpones first genocide trial

Kigali: The trial of a first group of six Rwandans accused of genocide was postponed indefinitely yesterday. Judge Claudien Gatera ruled that the trial should be delayed to allow time to prepare the cases against the six, one a youth of 17 accused of murdering at least six people.

The decision came as Rwanda prepared itself for a day of national mourning today on the first anniversary of the conflict with the reburial of some victims, most of them Tutsis or moderates in the Hutu majority, including Agathe Uwilingiyimana, the Prime Minister who was among the first to die last year.

Judge Gatera first studied the case of the 17-year-old who is represented by four lawyers recruited by the United Nations Children's Fund. The defence asked for an adjournment on the ground that the court failed to give them the statutory eight days' warning to appear in court.

The other five defendants, who were not represented, were then called up. Prosecution lawyers said that they had been denounced and identified "by numerous witnesses".

Judge Gatera said the trial was being attended by many foreign observers, particularly journalists, and should be prepared more fully. All six face the death sentence if found guilty. *(AFP)*

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gaddafi defies flight ban

Colonel Muammar Gaddafi has told three Arab League nations that Libyan planes will soon be flying over their airspace in defiance of a United Nations embargo (Christopher Walker writes). The Libyan leader also said he was considering pulling out of the UN because it had become an instrument of the Western powers.

In an interview with *The New York Times*, he vowed to retaliate against Egypt, Sudan and Saudi Arabia — the three countries involved — if they did not permit the flights, which he said would be carrying pilgrims to Mecca, the holy Islamic city in Saudi Arabia.

Cardinal quits

Vienna: Cardinal Hans Hermann Gröer, Archbishop of Vienna, who is accused of sexually abusing young boys 20 years ago, has resigned as head of Austria's episcopal conference. *(AFP)*

General goes

Baghdad: Ayad Fteih al-Rawi, commander of Iraq's Republican Guards during the Gulf War, was replaced as the army chief by General Sultan Hashim Ahmad. No reason was given. *(Reuter)*

Custer sale

San Francisco: An auction of memorabilia belonging to General George Custer, as well as an unpublished account of the Battle of the Little Big Horn in 1876 at which he died, raised almost $2 million (£1.25 million). *(Reuter)*

Quebec to vote

Montreal: Quebec will vote in a referendum in the autumn for the second time in 15 years on whether it should separate from Canada, Jacques Parizeau, the Premier, announced. He did not give a date. *(Reuter)*

Burning desire

Delhi: Some tobacco producers are adding arsenic to Indian tobacco in the belief that it is an aphrodisiac, according to researchers at a medical college in the northern city of Ludhiana, the Press Trust of India reported. *(AFP)*



Troops checking civilians near Ipil, the Philippines town which suffered a Muslim guerrilla onslaught

Filipino troops 'closing in' on rebel marauders

Ipil, Philippines: Police and military officials said yesterday that they were closing in on Muslim gunmen suspected of taking up to 26 hostages after rampaging through Ipil, in the southern Philippines, leaving 47 people dead. President Ramos meanwhile dismissed two senior military commanders for failing to prevent Tuesday's attack, which also saw scores of banks and shops robbed and ransacked. Ipil's commercial district was burnt to the ground. On Wednesday, the guerrillas fired at a helicopter carrying Rafael Alunan, the Interior Secretary. Recuredo Sarmiento, the Police Director-General and a state television reporter, who were flying over the area as part of a six-helicopter convoy carrying Scout Ranger troops. The attackers missed and one helicopter returned fire. *(AFP)*

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Anne McElvoy on Natalya Solzhenitsyn, her 20 years of exile and the family's return home

ARCHIE BARON



Natalya Solzhenitsyn, a mathematician and former Olympic rower, risked prison to smuggle out her husband's archive in 1974, and organised the train trip back to Russia

Trouble and strife of a Russian genius

Natalya Dimitryevna Solzhenitsyn is in full flow. Her *intense brown eyes* flash pure scorn on to the lenses of the world's press as cameramen and photographers jostle to capture her husband's first encounter in 20 years with the homeland that expelled him. "We are a private family," she raps: "a husband, a wife and their *children. We are not obliged to* take you everywhere with us. Do you expect to be invited into the bedroom too?"

History records that marriage to an illustrious Russian writer is not the most fertile of rose gardens: Sonya Tolstoy ended up mad, addicted to opium and finally excluded from her husband's deathbed; Dostoevsky's wife had to fight off creditors after her husband's gambling stints in Baden-Baden. More recently, Nadezhda Mandelstam was left to scratch a living and defend Osip's reputation after he was carted off to Stalin's camps.

To this extent, Natalya is part of a Russian tradition of *women devoted to difficult* geniuses. Alexander Solzhenitsyn, as an exclusive BBC documentary of his return to Russia last year confirms, is a singular and solitary man, who has spent his exile in Cavendish, Vermont, under a self-imposed eremitic regime, learning only broken English and refusing US citizenship.

But she has also become part of the Solzhenitsyn legend in her own right: his representative on Earth, amanuensis, and public-relations adviser, his Cerberus and the only person she trusts to type out and edit his work.

After Solzhenitsyn — whose views on the Western press are dim in the extreme — surprisingly agreed to the producer Archie Baron's request to film his homecoming, the BBC paid for two train carriages for the Solzhenitsyns and the crew — who were only told about the confidential project at the last moment — and off they all set on the two-month journey.

The result is a curious and *intimate portrait of one of the* few undisputed living heroes: the recluse who cannot stand the media with a fly-on-the-wall team in tow; the veteran of the camps finding himself greeted by bureaucrats with KGB eyes; the purveyor of a vision of a morally upright and spiritually confident Russia confronted with consumerism and mafia gangs holding up his train.

For all this, Solzhenitsyn, grumpy, demanding and autocratic, remains an impenetrable man, someone who needs the Word to make him flesh. Far more enlightening is the desperation with which the ordinary people greet the return of the native. "After the Almighty," says one elderly *survivor of the Gulag, "there is* Alexander Isayevich (Solzhenitsyn)." But he wisely wonders whether the writer can penetrate the new Russia, built on suppression of its recent past: "They have already surrounded his truth with their lies."

Twenty years younger than her 76-year-old husband, a gifted mathematician and former Olympic rower, Natalya has spent the two decades in America ensuring that he has optimal conditions in which to write his magnum opus, *The Red Wheel*, a historical narrative including long biographical tracts and experimental techniques. Although Solzhenitsyn's reputation in the West rests on *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*, *The Gulag Archipelago* and *Cancer Ward*, *he is proudest of his last* work, four times as long as *War and Peace*, but far less readable. "You practically need a grant to complete it," says one Vassar College professor.



Solzhenitsyn: impenetrable

After Brezhnev accorded Solzhenitsyn the perverse honour of stripping him of his citizenship and bundling him out of the Soviet Union in 1974, his wife stayed behind and risked prison to smuggle out his private archive. In Vermont, she negotiated so efficiently for her husband to be left in peace that the close-knit community, initially offended *by his reclusiveness*, took upon itself the duty of protecting him from the gaze of pilgrims and interlopers.

She taught their three sons a Russian poem every day, made sure that they are bilingual, and runs the Gulag fund — a top-secret project in Soviet times — which diverts some of her husband's massive royalties to help the families of those who suffered in the camps. It was Natalya who planned her husband's 6,000-mile odyssey back to Russia through the Far East, lambasting the cowboy builders who have failed to this day to complete work on the grand dacha which was intended as a peace offering for the dissident hero.

"The family," says Baron, "live in a way which was common among the Russia intellectual elite in the 19th century but seems unusual to us today. Natalya carries an unbelievable burden of frustrating responsibility."

Doughty feminists need not, however, plan a midnight rescue bid. There can be no faking the sheer joy in each other's presence evinced by Mr and Mrs Solzhenitsyn in the film. He has always had the medieval saint's knack of gathering women about him as unpaid helpers, including Natalya, which is how they met. "I love this man," she says simply when asked why she puts up with it all.

The couple's three sons are also bound to their father by bonds beyond conventional filial attachment. The eldest, Yermolai, was at Eton and works in Taiwan. The younger brothers, Stephan and Ignat, have always lived in America (Stephan is studying town planning at Harvard; Ignat is *a concert pianist*). *Yermolai* travelled with his father for most of the journey because he relished the chance to spend so much time with him. They all see the return to Russia as part of their destiny.

During some frustrating telephone conversations with Ignat about the return, it struck me that this engaging young man with a demanding career spent a lot of his waking hours, now that his mum and dad are back in Moscow, acting as an intermediary in the West for them. He never showed the slightest irritation in taking dawn calls or replying punctually to midnight faxes. Once, embarrassed at abusing his patience, I ventured that it must be tiresome for him to have to deal with his parents' affairs. "It's my role," came the instant reply. "It's what I do in this family."

● The Homecoming *will be shown on April 10 at 9.30pm on BBC1.*

Dark side of the peacemakers

Joanna Pitman on how Japan is waking up to its war atrocities

The 50th anniversary of the first atom bomb is still four months away but already the city of Hiroshima is gearing up to become the national and spiritual capital of Japan's peace movement.

In spite of the martial traditions on which so much of Japanese culture is based, Japan has unambiguously proclaimed itself a peace-loving nation. "Peace studies" are taught in schools with the high seriousness that the British reserve for sex education.

Understood by the majority of the population as some kind of quality like heat or cold, "peace" can be heard all over Japan, chanted by priests, solemnly invoked by politicians and businessmen and bellowed by masked demonstrators.

If 50 years ago it was Japan's destiny to lead Asia into a new era of prosperity free of white colonialists, then now Japan's clearly defined duty, as the only country ever to have experienced the horror of the atom bomb, is to lead the world towards a new model of international peace.

But such things are not so simple in the real world. Japan's role as peacemaker has always been based on its image as the victim of Allied aggression in the war.

Since then, the image of Japan as victim has been maintained by the systematic rewriting in official history texts of the darkest wartime chapters, and by the refusal of successive governments to acknowledge, apologise or compensate for their country's brutal record.

To this day the Japanese Establishment believes not that it was wrong of Japan to start the Pacific War — it had no other choice — but that it was wrong that Japan lost it. As a result the Japanese people have effectively been prevented from understanding and coming to terms with their past.

But now the tide is turning to expose the fallacy of the official version for two reasons. First, the death in 1989 of Emperor Hirohito has released a number of cathartic confessions from elderly war veterans wanting, as all good Buddhists should, to cleanse their souls before death. Secondly, there is a growing body of documentary evidence of wartime atrocities hitherto officially denied, now being held up to the public gaze.

In his new book, *The Comfort Women* (Souvenir Press £18.50), George Hicks has compiled a minutely researched history of the thousands of Korean, Chinese and other women duped, abducted or coerced into sexual slavery at the hands of Japanese troops as the Imperial Army swept across Asia.

The book's distinction lies in its mass of first-hand accounts by repentant soldiers, observers and comfort women themselves which together paint a chilling picture of the conditions of wanton cruelty in which these women lived.

The kind of evidence now beginning to come out in Tokyo courtrooms from former comfort women and their relatives is steadily *adding weight to the case for* a comprehensive reassessment by the Government of its wartime past.



A wartime comfort woman

Another recently published book of documentary evidence throws new light on the indoctrination of the nation by the military elite, through a perceptive study of the psychology of the Japanese during the war. In it Toshio Iritani, a professor *of social psychology*, provides a devastating indictment of the Fascist misuse of education.

He also gives an account of the sadistic treatment of schoolchildren and military recruits which he believes provided the background for the horrific cruelty meted out to prisoners of war.

On the surface Japan appears to have moved further than most countries in the changes it has achieved since the war. But if the passage of time is measured by the hold of the past over the present, then Japan is still too close for comfort.

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Where workers queue to get in

Margot Norman on a factory that offers a sense of dignity

A factory where it feels normal to be dodging wheelchairs while discussing psychotic episodes and Dostoevsky's *The Idiot* with an assembly-line worker *is an unusual place*. A supervisor near by is patiently repeating an instruction you heard him give half a minute ago to a man with an eager but slightly vacant expression. The man is straining not to forget again. A normal-looking girl puts down the bulkhead light she is assembling, gets up and turns out to be no taller standing than sitting. Two deaf men argue in sign language, and a shop steward with badly twisted legs hobbles to intervene.

This is Remploy's factory in Acton, west London, where 118 physically and/or mentally disabled people work. The goods they are making or assembling are as oddly assorted as they are themselves — saunas and cardboard boxes at one end of the low building, headsets and light fittings in the middle, then various printed circuit-boards for fruit machines and fire alarms. The 10,000 disabled people in Remploy's other 94 factories produce a truly extraordinary range of goods, everything from car parts for Rover and knitwear for Marks & Spencer and the American military, to electronic bits and pieces for Sony and Panasonic and Silhouette bras.

Jeff Cunningham, on headsets, is agitated. He can think of nothing but the gold watch he will be presented with today, when Remploy celebrates its 50th anniversary and he marks 30 years of service here. Asked what his disability is, he looks startled and says, simply: "I *dunno. The labour exchange put me* here." The idea of being anywhere else is evidently too appalling to contemplate.

Remploy was set up with government subsidies to provide "training and productive sheltered employment" for disabled people, many of whom at that time were ex-combatants. Nowadays passionate integrationist campaigners for the disabled hope the plants will wither away. But is that what the workers want?



Tony Trimble: "Each of us is different"

Some, like 16-year-old Anne, who came here straight from school, do feel the stigma of segregation. Her handicap is dwarfism, and she means to progress to nightschool and an ordinary job. Others, like Tony Trimble, the TGWU shop steward, started out with regular jobs. He is a cabinet-maker who joined Remploy 17 years ago when his disabilities worsened.

A thoughtful, plucky man, Trimble speaks for them all in one respect: "Each disabled person is different." Some want *this support and segregation, some need* it, others come to need it as they age. He never knew his mother, and no one even bothered to teach him to read until he was 17. Now he is a church deacon, a foreman and shop steward who in a former job led colleagues in a strike over safety hazards, and a dedicated husband to his severely disabled and very demanding wife.

He says disabled people understand others' handicaps better than the able-bodied do, but dismisses the idea that disabled workers are bound to be mutually supportive. "What you find here is that people have a grievance, so no, they're not that helpful to each other actually."

The factory seems a lot less sheltered than I expected. There are only seven able-bodied supervisors; there are no medical people hovering. Everyone is working away steadily, if in some cases slowly. The layout is more spacious than usual because of the wheelchairs, but the place is quite noisy. Tim Thorndyke, the factory manager, and Eddie Selby, regional manager, don't pussyfoot about with politically correct language or undue solicitude: they get on with competing for contracts.

This is not, therefore, an environment that makes more than the necessary concessions to its workers. Forty per cent of Remploy's workforce are mentally handicapped in some way, and the proportion — especially of schizophrenics — is rising. The man who suffered from psychotic episodes shudders at the thought of returning to an ordinary factory: "There are no malicious jokes here." He is both enthralled and terrified by his illness. "I just suddenly go psychotic. Everything's magical, the whole world becomes fascinating and you gain special insights. It's a great adventure but it's also very, very dangerous."

Who else would risk taking him on? For many of the people I met here, their job is obviously the one thing that gives meaning to life; this factory is their family and *their dignity. If anyone doubts that it is* needed, they should come before the factory opens at 7.30am. By six, a small queue of workers is already forming.

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The wilful minds behind a will

How far can a will go? **Giles Coren** unearths some bizarre instructions for those who inherit

There is very little more exciting than the reading of a will. Local newspaper columns and the *Spectator*'s "Will of the Week" depend on the vicarious excitement generated by the bequest of large sums of money, or the revelation of unsuspected poverty. And there is always that possibility which executors dread and observers pray for: the potty conditional clause.

For so long a favoured theme for writers and film-makers, from Ben Jonson's *Volpone* to the 1945 film classic *Brewster's Millions*, the eccentric will-maker who stipulates bizarre funeral rites, or demands horrible tasks of beneficiaries to exact some overdue revenge, seemed to have gone into decline in recent years. But the will of Sir Charles Irving, demanding that his ashes be scattered from an aeroplane over the town of Cheltenham (see Diary, page 18), has recaptured the fun-seeking flavour of the maverick will, and may signal its return to fashion.

In the golden age of wacky will writing, the right to determine a beneficiary's choice of spouse was a favourite area for play. In 1971, Wilfred Thompson left £16,000 to his niece on condition that she never marry at all, on pain of the whole sum reverting to the State for reduction of the national debt.

In the same year, *The Times* reported that a man had been left £36,000 by his aunt on condition that he marry a dark girl over 5ft 10in with an interest in classical music. He was allowed to charge courting expenses to the aunt's estate, but had to produce the women first for the approval of the trustees.

Then there was the grandson of the 5th Lord Hatherton who, in 1972, had to change his name from Perceval to Littleton to benefit from a bequest of £100,000. More testing still were the demands on a dental nurse who had to spend five years without wearing make-up or going out with a man, to collect £181,000 left by her former employer. One Marjorie Lobb insisted that her house be demolished to prevent strangers from inhabiting it after her death.

Is the decline in such eccentricity to do with some change in the law? Not according to solicitor William Heath of the Law Society Committee for Land Law and Succession. "I think we are just getting a bit more sane," he says. "The law has not changed, but the Cheltenham scattering could be challenged by the Environmental Protection Act.

"There is no limit to what a will is allowed to stipulate. The only recourse is to challenge it as being contrary to public policy. For example, you cannot insist that someone marries a particular person and expect your wishes to be carried out — but you can certainly make their inheritance dependent on not marrying a particular suitor." A more modern stipulation, made by one of Mr Heath's clients, who insisted that his son attend every home match at Blackburn Rovers, was also upheld.

"What changes is what is perceived as public policy. It is not written down, and what the courts were prepared to accept 20 years ago might be considered an infringement today."

When Gwladys Stone, of Glamorgan, decreed in 1979 that the wives of her five sons play a game of high-card draw to determine which would receive the bequest of a valuable brooch, the family were "surprised but not dismayed", and the game was duly played. Whether the burghers of Cheltenham will display similar stoicism and reach for their umbrellas remains to be seen.

Malcolm Bradbury on why he is leaving his school of creative writing at the University of East Anglia

'All writers need friends, however solitary they are'

For 25 years Malcolm Bradbury has been professing English and American Studies at the University of East Anglia, but more famously as The Creative Writing Man; "building a nest of singing birds in flat, windblown East Anglia". Now he is leaving to do some creative writing of his own. "Twenty-five years of living inside the work of other writers," he says, "is about as much as one skull can carry."

It is 20 years since I last visited Bradbury in Norwich to talk about *The History Man*, his satirical novel about the horrible sociology professor. I was then great with child and full of mid-1970s optimism; I found him mocking the new university with ironical *aperçus*, a distinctly 1950s figure in Lasdun's concrete ziggurat. He smoked a pipe and wore leather patches on the elbows of his tweeds. Today, at 62, he has grown into this fogeyish attire, amazed to have lived so long.

Having been a sickly child, forbidden sport, and therefore bookish, at 26 he was featured in *The Lancet*, with "before and after" photos: the first patient to benefit from a heart operation which, they said, might help him to five to 50.

It was her devoted visits to him in hospital that made him decide to marry his wife Elizabeth, adaptor of literary classics for radio, 35 years ago.

When I arrived at the Bradburys' early-Victorian house, he had just finished reading Margaret Drabble's forthcoming life of Angus Wilson, who was Professor of English when Bradbury arrived here. It had rather upset him. "I came to UEA because of Angus, and admired his work to the end," he said, "and what I discovered in Maggie's book is that Angus didn't like me very much. He rather feared this young novelist encroaching on his place, and was extremely worried about what I would write. It was quite shattering to read how he'd been rendered anxious by my presence."

Twenty-five years ago Bradbury and Wilson had to battle with faceless committees to get the creative writing course started at all. Anyway, the course had no takers; Ian McEwan was their *deus ex machina*. He applied just as they were giving up. So McEwan was, for the first year, 1970, Bradbury's only student. McEwan was on the selection committee that appointed Bradbury's successor, Andrew Motion ("brilliant choice"), and when I asked Bradbury if he was still McEwan's mentor he said: "I regard him as a mentor."

Now things have swung almost too far the other way: every poly has its creative writing course. What about the view that what we need is not to encourage writing, but reading? Bradbury: "I have a great deal of sympathy with those who say the best writers make it on their own."

But he is editing an anthology, *Classwork*, reflecting the success of his 200 graduates, of whom 40 are published — some (Ian McEwan, Kazuo Ishiguro, Rose Tremain, Clive Sinclair) succeeding faster than others. Some have become publishers themselves: some write about travel, or wine. At any rate, they acquired a network of literary friends ("And writers do need friends, however solitary they may be") and beat the Oxbridge mafia at its own game.

"I am redbrick through and through. And I felt provincialised by that," Bradbury says. "Writers from Oxford and Cambridge did seem to have a peculiar advantage of access, and friendship, but many non-Oxbridge people felt they could not get into writing because they didn't go to Oxbridge."

Things have changed. Forty years ago in his first novel, *Eating People is Wrong*, a redbrick lecturer, Treece, contemplates his pale-faced students, Oxbridge rejects: he knows what books they will have read, what essays they will write . . . At that time, the first generation of grammar-school undergraduates (regarded by the old guard as back-street scum who didn't know a port from a sherry glass, without a background of culture and art, hadn't been to Italy) were just starting to arrive.

"Now, everybody's new class. Those who do have access to that ancient culture talk it down; and if you start life with a cut-glass accent you end up talking Estuary, don't you?" says the Sheffield-born Bradbury, in impeccable, received pronunciation.

THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW



And yes, the standard of literacy has indeed fallen. "And spelling is vastly inferior. But the most noticeable thing is linguistic inadequacy: not knowing where words come from. When we lost Latin we lost a learning system in the use of language, which gave a training in metre, the ode, the elegy, the epic, basic forms. We studied Wordsworth and Milton for their linguistic mastery.

"That is lost, and the result is a falsehood about the nature of creativity, which is that it all spouts from inside, that the right to self-expression matters more than how you say things: it is about empowerment, self-assertion, identity formation, rather than a craft, a task, a training, involving humility in front of defined ways of interpreting the world, established by predecessors."

Do his students accept this? "In a workshop, they are forced to, because every sentence is read out and examined by the group: it can get quite tense, and I often have to take the diplomatic role of the prisoner's friend. But they do become more careful about how they construct sentences." (He hates having to read out work in progress and cannot bear even his wife to look over his shoulder.)

He finds young writers, untrammelled by traditional forms, less constipated, more inventive. They no longer address themselves to social realism about contemporary Britain (as an exhausted seam) but write fantasy stuff set in imaginary countries. "And instead of coming to the novel via Dickens or Waugh, they are more likely to read the Americans, the South Americans, and to be influenced by Quentin Tarantino."

He would prefer them to read Dickens. "Yes, I am old fashioned: I think people should imbibe and ingest a decent literary education in order to write well."

His farewell to the academic life is a new book, *Dangerous Pilgrimages*, charting the way America and Europe have mythologised one another. It fits in well with the thesis he delivered at the Britain in the World conference last week: that the United States of America is reinventing the United States of Europe for economic purposes, just as it once did for cultural reasons.

Now we face the end of a century, with no conviction about the next one bringing anything better. In 1800, political revolution, and the Enlightenment and Romanticism movements, at least shaped hopeful images. In 1900 the minds of artists, writers and thinkers were filled with exciting possibilities. "From the mythology of the new century came the enormous drama of radical new theories: relativity, psychoanalysis, sociology, Marxism. Wells saw terrors ahead, but thought he knew the shape of things to come: new discoveries, futuristic cities, science doing unbelievable things. They were wrong, but they did have maps of the future."

What stares at the streetwise writers of the 1990s is just more of the same problems, and worse. Which is why Bradbury found so much to applaud in Martin Amis's new novel, *The Information*. "Not only is he a brilliant stylist, but he has invented a manner of world-weary pessimism, slightly reminiscent of the decadence of the 1890s except that this time there's absolutely no hope. The 'information' is that it's all over."

When he first went to America in the 1950s, he says, Herman Kahn ran a project called Towards the Year 2000. "Almost none of its prophecies have materialised. We would be living on the Moon, our cities would be space-age, we would have moved beyond the car, our standard of living would be permanently rising, the rate of discovery in every sphere would accelerate, we would have discovered a cure for cancer.

"Nobody foresaw the ozone layer, pollution, Aids, the rise of women, the demise of the nuclear family, the consequences of drugs, or the effects of the time rate. Or the Internet and its massive questions: Who possesses verbal communications? Who manages them? What is their usefulness?"

At our last interview he gave me a rather cheerless tutorial on 1970s life: "Multistorey car parks, a world more hostile than gentle." Typically, today the lettering on the concrete of his faculty building says: "nglish and American studie". (No money for repairs.)

That night we both watched an apocalyptic *Late Show* and heard Norman Stone and others asking: "Has Europe a future? The 21st century is beginning to look medieval: a world ruled by robber barons, and plague-like disease . . ." Time, surely, for a really savage comic novel from the emeritus professor.

ALAN WELLER



Malcolm Bradbury: he says he can no longer live inside the heads of other writers

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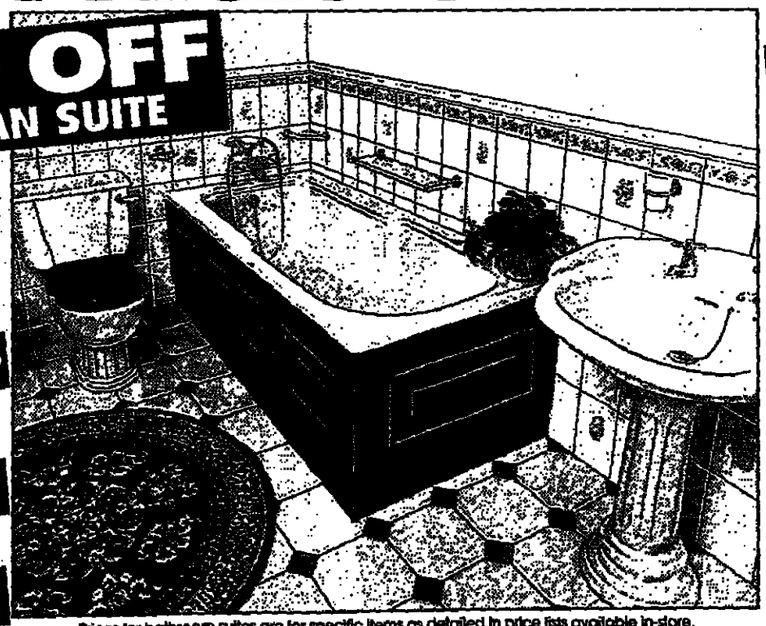
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The Bear looks to a new Yalta

It is in Russia's interests to foster confusion over Eastern Europe, says **Jonathan Eyal**

WILLIAM PERRY, the American Defence Secretary, concluded his visit to Moscow this week with the traditional toasts and polite smiles. The war in Chechenia has damaged Russia's image, but the Kremlin has now accepted — at least in principle — a European mission tasked with monitoring events in the region. With the bulk of the Chechen fighting now over, the International Monetary Fund has already approved new loans to Russia, and the European Community may well proceed with a new trade agreement with the Kremlin as early as next week.

The presence of both Bill Clinton and John Major at the celebrations for the end of the Second World War in Red Square in May will be the final signal that Chechenia was but a blimp on an otherwise serene East-West "partnership".

Yet nothing could be further from the truth. The West and Russia are not talking to each other, but past each other. The partnership launched after the collapse of the Soviet Union has reached a dead end: from now on, confrontation rather than collaboration will dominate Russia's relations with the West. More important, the security negotiations which the West is proposing to launch with the Russians in the near future can only result in a new division of Europe into spheres of influence, precisely what everyone is officially pledged to avoid.

> Russia has understood the game only too well

In short, all the foolish policies pursued by the West for the last five years are now coming home to roost.

For a while, after the collapse of the Soviet Union, the West assumed that Russia's desire to be recognised as a great power could be satisfied by symbolic gestures alone. Moscow was persuaded to support the war against Iraq in 1991, and expected full compensation for its stance. Instead, it was rewarded with complete isolation from the Middle East peace process. The Russians were told that they must stop supplying weapons to their client-states around the world and that, in return, they were partners in a grand effort to contain weapons proliferation. Russian arms sales, which stood at $14 billion a year when communism collapsed, duly plummeted to a mere $1.3 billion last year. Yet at the same time US arms exports to the Third World rose to $13.5 billion, and British deliveries nearly trebled in value. As the proposed sale of a nuclear reactor to Iran now indicates, Moscow is no longer prepared to tolerate this situation.

And there is worse to come. For more than two years, the Russian Government has undermined the stability of many former Soviet republics, with the deliberate intention of recreating the old empire in everything but name. The West has greeted these events with sullen resignation, plenty of hot air and precious little else.

It did not take President Yeltsin long to work out that, despite all the fine declarations, the West is not particularly interested in Russian democracy — and that, since the West wants stability at all costs, the worse Russia's economic situation is, the more Western aid will pour in.

After years of dithering, the West has finally realised that, without expanding further East, Nato, its most important military institution, will simply wither away. Moscow expressed its opposition to Nato's enlargement. The simple Western answer should have been that membership in the Alliance is what the East Europeans want. Instead, the West not only started talking to Moscow about it above the heads of the East Europeans, but is actually compounding the error by now proposing to negotiate a special friendship treaty with Russia before Nato enlarges.

The Russians believe their weakness is temporary; they have no interest in signing any agreement which renders it permanent. Thus, the only treaty which Russia will accept now is one that divides Europe into spheres of influence. No Western government will re-enact the Yalta agreement which divided the continent at the end of the Second World War.

However, a second Yalta is still on the cards, at least by default. If, for instance, Nato accepts new members, but pledges not to introduce Western troops into Eastern Europe, the Russians would have achieved their objective: Eastern Europe will be nominally in the Western camp, but practically remain in suspended animation. The West's problem is no longer how to integrate some new members into Nato but how to prevent those who cannot now be admitted into the Alliance from falling under Russian control.

JUST AS in the 1930s, the East Europeans are considered as the subject, rather than the object of a Western policy. Just as then, governments believe that accommodating rather than confronting expansionist tendencies is the right policy. And, exactly like the 1930s, the assumption is that splitting the difference over Eastern Europe with the Russians can provide stability for all.

The Russians have understood the game only too well: they have just upped the stakes by threatening to default on arms control agreements unless they are compensated for Eastern Europe's loss.

Sooner or later, a confrontation between Russia and the West is inevitable and, as always this will come over Eastern Europe. And Russia will return to its traditional role, as a country which all Europe fears in equal measures both when it is weak and when it is strong.

The author is Director of Studies at the Royal United Services Institute in London.

The execution of Nicholas Ingram is nothing unusual in America, as **Martin Fletcher** reports

Just one more vacant place on Death Row

Beneath the headline "British Upset About Pending US Execution" *The Washington Post* yesterday ran a lengthy story about the "furor" in Britain over last night's scheduled execution in Georgia's electric chair of Nick Ingram, the British-born murderer. Such intense interest baffles Americans. The debate over capital punishment is all but over in the US: executions are now commonplace.

In a country paranoid about violent crime, support for the death penalty is running at a record 80 per cent. The rate of executions is steadily increasing, from five in 1983 to 11 in 1988, a record 38 in 1993 and 14 in the first three months of 1995 alone. A month ago New York became the 38th state to reinstate the death penalty since it was declared constitutional in 1976. The Supreme Court has now tilted decisively in favour, the death penalty is being extended to more and more crimes, and there is scarcely a politician in the country who has not jumped on the capital punishment bandwagon.

George Bush demonstrated the electoral potency of the issue with his devastating assaults on Michael Dukakis for being "soft on crime" during the 1988 presidential election. Democrats quickly got the message. In the following year's Texas gubernatorial primary, one Democrat, a former governor, ran commercials showing him parading before blown-up photographs of all those he had sent to the electric chair while his rival, the state's attorney-general, boasted of having personally attended 32 executions.

By 1992 Bill Clinton would have destroyed his presidential ambitions had he refused, as Arkansas governor, to allow the execution of a murderer named Rickey Ray Rector, who had blown half his brain away and was little more than a vegetable. Few who know Mr Clinton believe he really favours capital punishment. A new biography of the President tells how in 1976 he sought biblical justification for the death sentence from his Little Rock pastor, Worley Vaught, to ease his conscience. Dr Vaught duly provided it, arguing that the ancient Hebrew translation of the sixth commandment was "thou shalt not murder", not "thou shalt not kill".

The death penalty's last really prominent opponent was Mario Cuomo, New York's governor. His stand, and in particular his handling of the celebrated case of Thomas Grasso, cost him re-election last November. Grasso had strangled an elderly woman in Oklahoma with her Christmas tree lights, then killed again in New York. He was first sentenced to life imprisonment in New York, and then to death in Oklahoma. Mr Cuomo sued to have him returned from Oklahoma, giving George Pataki, his Republican opponent, priceless ammunition which he ruthlessly exploited. One of Mr Pataki's first acts as governor was to return Grasso to Oklahoma for death by lethal injection.

What debate there still is over capital punishment in America centres on ways to reduce the considerable time it takes to implement the death sentence. America's death rows now bulge with nearly 3,000 inmates. They can each expect to survive eight to ten years before they exhaust the appeals process, and at least one, Florida's Thomas Knight, has lasted 20 years. This makes the death penalty much more expensive to implement — roughly $2 million a time — than life imprisonment.

Faced with statistics showing that the homicide rate has actually edged upwards since the death penalty's reinstatement, conservatives blame its apparent failure to deter on this inordinate lapse of time between sentencing and execution. But most ordinary Americans favour it simply on grounds of retribution and catharsis, and one senses that few are too upset by the occasional miscarriage of justice.

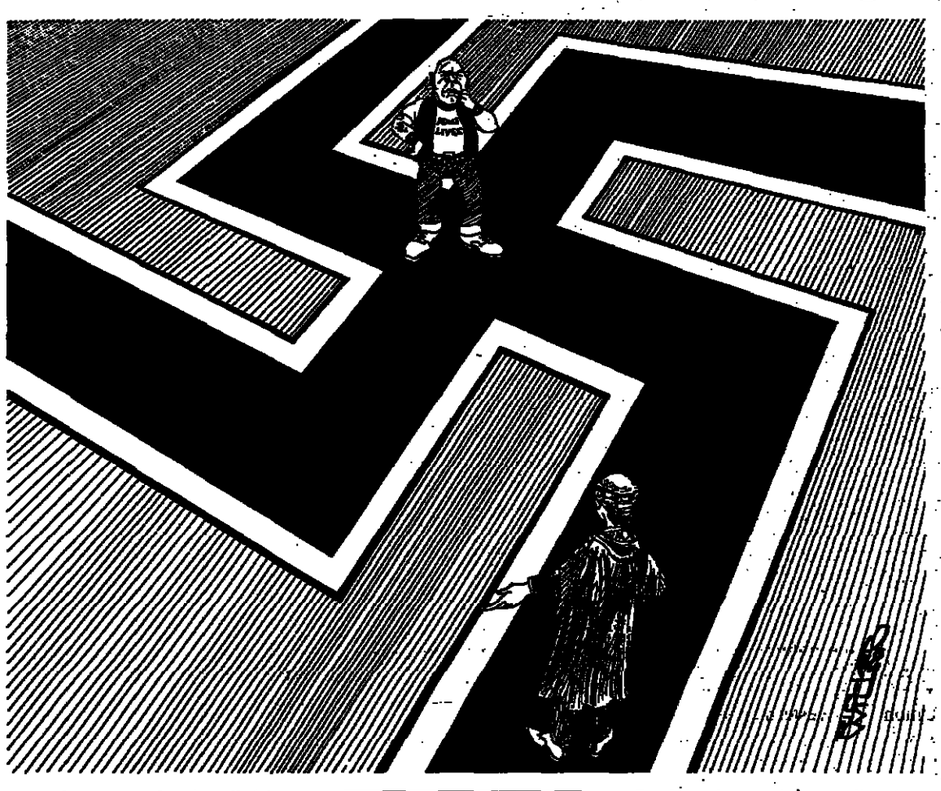
In Texas in January a man named Jesse DeWayne Jacobs was executed by lethal injection even though his prosecutor had changed his mind about Jacobs's guilt, decided he was only an accomplice, and secured Jacobs's sister's conviction. The Vatican protested, but there was scarcely a murmur of protest in America. In 1993 a House judiciary committee report noted that 52 innocent men and women had been released from America's death rows in the previous two decades and concluded: "The chances are high that innocent people have been or will be executed."

Texas leads America in executions, having performed 93 of the 271 since 1976, and there is perhaps is no more vivid metaphor for America's imperviousness to what most of the developed world considers a barbaric practice than the topography of the little town of Huntsville. Right in the heart of this small East Texas community is the Walls Unit, a vast red-brick fortress with watchtowers at every corner. It houses the state's death chamber. Charming tree-lined residential streets run up to the very walls of this hideous construction, and a Dairy Queen ice-cream bar completes the incongruity.

It remains a moot point, of course, whether British politicans acquit themselves better than the Americans over capital punishment. The latter may sometimes appear craven and unprincipled, but they can at least argue that they are responding to the public's will.

A tale of two kinds of justice

Not every punishment can fit the crime, but some can come satisfyingly close



Bernard Levin

Don't run away, but this is about judges and courts and people in the dock, but please, *please* don't run away! For one thing, it is not — as it usually is when I am about — denouncing judges I don't approve of, and for another thing the two judges in the two cases concerned here may never have met, yet they are bound together in a strange symbiosis. And indeed, if you stay the course you will find that this story is not really about judges at all. And in so far as it *is* about judges, one of them is almost very remarkably wise, and the other can see a joke, and even make one. But where there are two courts, there will be two central figures, and where there are two central figures, people like me seek similarities in the twos, and occasionally find them. So if you read the story of the first episode, and then read the story of the second, you will realise that the universe is not, as some tiresome people would have it, random.

Let me warm up with the second of the justices. (I have only this moment realised that if the judge with the joke doesn't see it, I may be behind bars before lunch, so if this column breaks off in the middle of a paragraph, don't be surprised.)

It all began when Judge Matthewman was trying a case of fraud. Now I take it my readers know that, with very few exceptions, anyone can go into any of our courts and listen to the proceedings. On this occasion, a young man with matted shoulder-length hair — Simon Finch by name — wandered into Judge Matthewman's court, sat down and shortly afterwards fell asleep. I must point out that it is not an offence to fall asleep in a courtroom, and indeed many a judge has had so soporific an effect on the proceedings that practically everyone in the courtroom is deep in sleep in well under half an hour. (This, of course, could not possibly happen with Judge Matthewman.)

The young man, as I said, fell asleep. But he began to snore so loudly that he had to be awoken by the usher, whereupon the badinage began. "I am not having my court treated like a doss-house," said His Honour. "Are you asking me to leave?" said Simon. "No, I am *telling* you to leave," riposted His Honour.

Next, there was what is called "an obscene remark" from Simon, who lost a point by being sent down to the cells for three hours. He lost many more points when he came up, and was finally put away for two months, though not before he had held up a two-finger signal and said to His Honour "Peace, man."

That was the icing; now for the cake. And a grim, yet perhaps hopeful, cake it is.

A young man of 22 — his name is David Draper and he lives in Cleveland — is besotted by Nazism and its products. His bedroom is a shrine to Hitler and Himmler. Jews and people of another colour are anathema to him, and he makes that abundantly clear. For instance, he has a pile of leaflets decorated with a Jew hanging from a gallows. Even more charming, he has stickers saying "Nine out of ten niggers are polluted by Aids", and even more charming than that, he distributes labels on which is printed "Zyklon-B, six million satisfied customers". [Zyklon-B was the gas used in the Holocaust.]

The Public Order Act prohibits "possessing racially inflammatory material intended to stir up racial hatred", and two dozen George Carmans, piled high, could not get master David off those charges, considering what the police found in his eyrie.

Now: the first of my two cases could be smiled at, though Judge Matthewman could hardly ignore the flagrant contempt of court — thus the two months in jail. The second of the cases would make anyone with feeling weep, yet Public Order Act or no Public Order Act, it would be wrong to imprison the offender. How so?

Listen to Mr Justice Holland; or indeed to me. Simon of Thumb-to-Nose may spend his life in the nonsense that put him away, but he is only 23, and my guess is that he will grow up, and — if not actually have his hair cut — stop drifting. But David of Down-with-the-Blacks stands at a crossroads, a crossroads which has a special nature; he can continue in the direction in which he was going when he was arrested, or he can change with the wind, and become an ordinary human being.

But if he chooses the same direction, he will have to go that way for the rest of his life.

David Draper was found guilty of nine offences under the Public Order Act; quite enough. It is not clear how he got into such muck, and even less clear how he can get out of it. As I say, if he goes to prison he will be lost for ever. But if he doesn't go to prison he will continue pouring out his poison in one or another way. How to square the circle?

Hear these wise words from the Bench.

> Mr Justice Holland told David Draper that if he jailed him he would become a martyr for his followers. Instead, the judge ordered him to do 180 hours community service in a year. "The purpose of the order is to enable you to put something into the community and not make hatred your contribution."

It is, as I am sure the judge realises, a very substantial guess which has been made here. The first prognosis is not a sunny one: in the court, Draper said that "a lot of people agree with what's on them stickers. You can't silence them all." and "I agree with all the views expressed in the documents that are in court. It's supposed to be a free country."

A probation officer (with a Jewish name!) suggested in a report that Draper could be put to work among the area's large Pakistani population. Physician, heal thy neighbour, but it might work, and work powerfully. I cling to the fact that he is only 22 years old, as Simon Finch was 23, and anyone — Fascist, Communist or Maoist — who takes up a stand at that age and never leaves it is rare (and indeed three-quarters daft as well).

I told you, did I not, that those two courts — the one trying a silly young man on nothing in particular, and the one trying a very unsilly young man on something very serious — were part of a pattern? The irony will not be lost on my readers, I think; the boy laughing at the solemnities of justice behind the bars, and the boy snarling at the solemnities of justice in front of the pats on the head.

The defence counsel (no doubt, when Master Draper takes over the country — nay, the world — such foibles as defence counsels will be abolished) had a difficult task, but carried it out beautifully. Here is what he said:

> He confirms today that he stands by his views. His reaction to being forced to work with an ethnic group was that he would not wish to do it but he would do so because he values his freedom. It may be that if he does that work he may see how misguided he has been.

No, David Draper is not going to take over the world, or Europe, or Britain, or London, or Westminster, or Euston Square, or the Burger King in the Haymarket. It is much more likely that the merry fellow who gave two fingers to the judge will take over the Burger King at Moorsditch and call it a day.

Is it possible that drug addicts can be weaned from their terrible fodder? Yes, certainly: indeed, I know one such person very well, and I dare say many of my readers can say the same. The leap is wide, but we must jump; we must believe that the youth who worshipped Hitler and Himmler can be saved from *his* dreadful poison. Many would say of drug addicts that it serves them right, and that there are many good needy causes to spend our money and time on; why should we try to redeem people who spit in the eye of redemption?

Answer: because even one saved from the burning is a triumph of goodness over evil. If David Draper listens to reason among the Pakistanis (I don't know exactly what his community service covers) that triumph would give heart to many of those who have given up.

Come, Judge Matthewman, you may be about to hear of something akin to a miracle; among the chants of success, would it not be a fine gesture to let off the next mildly wicked scofflaw?

Parting shots

SIR CHARLES IRVING, the former MP for Cheltenham who died last week, is proving as irreverent in death as he was on the Tory benches. He left specific instructions that his will should be read out in church during his funeral service. He also demanded that his ashes be scattered over Cheltenham from an aircraft.

Both requests are causing difficulty in the constituency he served for nearly 20 years. There are fears that Sir Charles might have decided to use his will to settle old scores and embarrass political opponents during the funeral.

"It would be very unusual, unique in fact, to have a will read out at a funeral," says the Rev Timothy Watson, who will be conducting the service on Monday. "I will discussing the matter with the executors of the will before deciding if this can happen."

The Civil Aviation Authority is concerned, too, about the ashes. "Recently we *have* allowed ashes to be dropped from aircraft but that was over airfields which are open spaces," says a spokesman. "A drop over the centre of Cheltenham is a little different. It might not be very pleasant for the people."

Although these uncertainties remain, the MP most famous for turning the loss-making Commons catering services into profit, will be given a full civic ceremony in Cheltenham: his coffin is to be carried through the streets on a horse-drawn carriage with police escort. The Cheltenham Silver Band will play and his old friend Dame Janet Fookes, the Deputy Speaker, will read an appreciation.



Dunnroamin? Lady Dunn

THE TIMES DIARY

Uneasy rider

STOUTLY shrugging off the occasional twinge, Lord Strathcarron, the doyen of motoring correspondents, was back behind the wheel, test-driving in Co Down this week. The 71-year-old peer, a correspondent of *The Field* for more than 40 years, came a cropper on the parliamentary motorbiking group's recent visit to South Africa.

"He shot straight over the handlebars after a minor disagreement with something in his path," explains a fellow peer. "Broke his collar-bone and three ribs. We had the most awful trouble holding him back afterwards. He was all for getting straight back on."

Home run?

SHE MAY say she's planning to stay in Hong Kong but, with the approach of 1997, one of the queens of the colony has bought herself a cosy little bolthole in the heart of Britain's royal county. Lady Dunn and her husband, the former Hong Kong Attorney General Michael Thomas, have snapped up Somerford Keynes House, near Cirencester, Gloucestershire. The baroness, a director of a clutch of top Hong Kong companies, will have the Prince of Wales at Highgrove and Princess Royal at Gatcombe Park as neighbours, but insists the £800,000 pile is strictly for holidays and the use of family and friends. "I have absolutely no plans to leave," she says. "I was born in Hong Kong. My family is there and we are both full of confidence in its future."

Talked out

BARONESS Thatcher was dismayed to be told to keep her speech brief at the lunch in the West End's Mirabelle restaurant for the British Red Cross on Wednesday. Her ladyship complained to Lord Archer: "Jeffrey, the Red Cross will only give me five minutes." Lord Archer was conciliation itself: "Take as long as you like," he cooed.

She took him at his word and talked for 20 minutes. The guests, who included Gordon Reece, Harvey Goldsmith and Anton Mossiman, were thereby prevented from nipping off to a party aboard P&O's new liner, *Oriana*. "She carried on and on and on," said a Red Cross spokesman. "But they gave her a standing ovation."

Home fixture

THOSE looking for a little place in Manchester would be wise to avoid the house which Eric Cantona vacated this week. The chap who lives in Cantona's previous home, which the footballer rented while playing for Leeds United, has not had an easy time of it.

"We still get loads of people calling round wanting to talk to Eric or telephoning for him. When he attacked that fan at Crystal Palace the phone was red hot. We were sick of it," moans Philip Flannary, an innocent joiner. "When Eric was here he got loads of grief and had to change his telephone number 12 times."

The only saving grace was the troublesome Frenchman's largesse. He left behind four bottles of champagne presented to him as man-of-the-match awards and a freezer-full of rabbits.

Fishy frenzy

THE SCENES at a party thrown by the upmarket Mayfair china store Thomas Goode on Wednesday night were a touch unseemly. More than 60kg of caviar was served but there was a bunfight each time a new dish appeared as peers and posers indulged in a wide-eyed feeding frenzy.

"I've only had two plates," wailed the Marquess of Bath. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity." Then he spotted a waiter with a loaded dish. "Stop, stop, I must find a plate, where can I get a plate?" he cried trotting off in agitated pursuit.

● *Bunty Lewis, organiser of the Queen Charlotte's ball, wasn't quite herself at a tea-time meeting in the Lanesborough hotel, in London, this week of the new crop of debs. Her gliding step was marred by a large furry sock on her foot — the result of a skiing accident. "I call it my gerbil," she said. "The chef is threatening to cook it."*

P·H·S



The high life of Bath

ELECTROTHANASIA

What execution methods say about a civilisation

For more than a century, the electric chair has symbolised the ultimate sanction of the American State. When it was first introduced in 1890 for the execution of William Kemmler in Albany, New York, the reason for the change was humanitarian: a state commission ruled that the bloodiness of the guillotine "did not accord with the temperament of the American people" and recommended "electrothanasia" instead. According to the US Supreme Court, the chair was a "step forward ... based on grounds of mercy and humanity".

Such a claim may have seemed plausible at a time when electricity was associated with modernity and enlightenment. Today, it rings more hollow. The gruesome horrors of death by electrocution are now widely known. In Georgia, indeed, they are made clear to condemned men in leaflets which list graphically the pain and appalling physical damage which execution will inflict on them. In similar spirit, death row prisoners are forced to polish the chair every day. Once a symbol of the State's humanitarian approach to execution, the chair has become just the opposite: the nearest thing the modern West has to the medieval stake.

The social significance of particular execution methods has often undergone such changes in the past. The English gallows began life as a symbol of the State's power to inflict painful death. "Albion's fatal tree"; by the time hanging was abolished in 1965, its defenders were arguing that it was the most humanitarian method of execution. Likewise, Dr Joseph-Ignace Guillotin campaigned in France for the use of the machine that took his name, on the grounds that even condemned criminals have certain inviolable rights and that the State must show respect for the body it is about to destroy. In the hands of the French revolutionaries, *le rasoir national* acquired a more complex significance. As Richard Sennett writes in his recent book, *Flesh and Stone*, "figures of the past had to be killed in a certain way, the enemies of the Revolution literally taken apart, so that their deaths became a lesson". The guillotine became a great leveller, a way of bureaucratising execution.

Civilised societies need to be aware of the symbolism with which they invest the methods they use for capital punishment and ask what it says about them. The American people have shown themselves emphatically in favour of the death penalty, which was restored by the Supreme Court in 1976. Since then, it has occupied a central place in American political life. Bill Clinton's decision as Governor of Arkansas to authorise the execution of the brain-damaged convict Rickey Ray Rector was crucial in his presidential campaign. In March, the use of the death penalty was reinstated in New York: even traditionally liberal Massachusetts is close to renewing capital punishment. Yet the electric chair is used in only nine states, compared with 29 which employ lethal injection.

The latter method is no less abhorrent to those who oppose the death penalty; indeed, it is more so to some, who claim that the use of humane methods of execution obscures the fundamental immorality of capital punishment. Yet that is barely an issue in modern America. The more relevant question is what methods of execution each state uses. Lethal injection involves much less pain and distress than death by electrocution. On that basis alone it should be used by all American states which feel compelled to use the death penalty. The retribution involved in capital punishment is the denial of life: it should not be the pain inflicted in death.

TURKEY AND THE WEST

Ankara should be helped towards a dignified exit from Iraq

The harm being done to Turkey's interests in the West by its military operation in northern Iraq is already much greater than the damage it has succeeded in inflicting on the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK). After more than a fortnight, the official Turkish military estimate is that its 35,000-strong force has killed a mere 380 of the 2,800 PKK fighters which it claims are in the region. Opinion in the West, meanwhile, is hardening rapidly.

Yesterday's decision by the European Parliament to withhold approval of Turkey's customs union with the European Union coincided with efforts by Turkish ministers to make their case in London, Bonn and Washington. As Douglas Hurd made clear yesterday to Hikmet Cetin, Turkey's Deputy Prime Minister who is himself Kurdish, the damage will be hard to repair without a rapid withdrawal.

The problem for the weak Government of Tansu Ciller is that whatever the worries of the Western-orientated members of the Turkish political class, this military venture is playing well not only among the pashas in the Turkish military but with popular Turkish opinion. Hence President Demirel's earlier hint that the operation might last a year and suggestions by senior commanders that troops could stay in "critical parts" of Iraq indefinitely. The PKK is deeply detested and feared; having said that the troops would stay until they had cleared the PKK out of northern Iraq, there is no easy exit strategy for the Government.

Mindful, however, of Mrs Ciller's trip to America later this month, Erdal Inonu, Turkey's newly appointed Foreign Minister, repeated in Washington yesterday that Turkey's aims are strictly "limited in duration and scope". Although neither he nor Mr Cetin has set a date for pulling out, there are signs that Turkey is casting around for a face-saving solution — and within weeks rather than months.

One idea canvassed by Ankara last week was an internationally policed buffer zone, but in Washington, Mr Inonu appeared to rule this out. The UN, he said, "cannot do anything against terrorism". Another theoretical possibility would be to resurrect a deal which Turkey struck in 1992 with the Iraqi Kurds, who agreed to keep the PKK under control in the border region. But since then, the two main Kurdish factions have fallen out: Turkey has reason to argue that the fighting between them has created the chaotic conditions in northern Iraq which the PKK is exploiting.

Western pressure may not secure immediate withdrawal, but this week's diplomatic offensive is evidence that Turkey does care about Western criticism. While the fighting lasts, access by foreign and Turkish journalists to the war zone is a vital safeguard for civilians, including the Iraqi Kurdish refugees who have been under the protection of the West's Operation Poised Hammer since 1991. The Turkish Foreign Office has had the good sense to countermand a clumsy bureaucratic attempt to close the border to foreign media. But access must include freedom to report. Mr Hurd rightly protested at the army's confiscation of film taken by Finnish freelance journalists, showing the bodies of seven shepherds allegedly murdered by Turkish troops near Azadi. The film must be returned.

The West's principal objective has to be to persuade the Turkish Government not merely to withdraw from Iraq, but to open a dialogue with the moderate majority of Turkey's Kurds. Its wisest course would be to declare the Iraqi incursion a success before its troops get bogged down and before the country is bankrupted — and to lift the ban on the pro-Kurdish Democratic Party. Ankara's dilemma must be acknowledged; the PKK is indisputably a terrorist movement. By relying on purely military measures, Turkey is digging itself an ever deeper hole. Its friends must be persistent in arguing the case for altering course.

DIAL L FOR LANGUAGES

Switchboard operators now have the world on their hands

"Well, if I called the wrong number, why did you answer the phone?" asked a bemused character once in a James Thurber cartoon in *The New Yorker*. Based on the results of a recent survey of telephone switchboard operators in Britain and other European countries, one might sketch a cartoon along similar lines. It would feature a telephonist in Birmingham, for example, slipping a barb at a caller from abroad: "If you cannot speak English, why did you ring Britain?" Naturally, it would not be half as funny as Thurber's tart original.

For anyone who has rung a British switchboard and dared to say "*Parlez-vous français?*" or "*Quisiera hablar con el gerente de ventas, por favor*", the experience can be dispiriting. More than that, it can turn potential customers off the idea of doing business with British firms. As Richard Needham, the Trade Minister, lamented on Wednesday at the annual National Languages for Exports Awards, "between 20 and 30 per cent of British small to medium-sized enterprises have reported losing trade for linguistic reasons".

Mr Needham cited a recent survey conducted on behalf of the Department of Trade and Industry by Lingua Tel — a private interpreting and translation company — which found that an extraordinary 74 per cent of foreign language calls received by British companies were abandoned at the switchboard. These calls, it must be pointed out, were made not in Tamil, Yoruba, Vietnamese or Estonian, but in languages such as French, German, Spanish and Italian — each one widely taught at schools and colleges all over the country. Compare this with Germany, where 60 per cent of calls made in English were handled "fluently".

British exporters continue to rely to a striking extent on the ability of their clients, actual or prospective, to speak English: given the reach of our language, which now has the undisputed status of global *lingua franca*, this is understandable to a degree. Yet as nearly three-quarters of European businessmen do not speak English, our enterprises are guilty of a considerable commercial sin. In our age of aggressive competition, the most important business language to speak is the customer's.

Radical improvements in the technology of communication have meant that British companies now need to employ fewer people on their switchboards than they did in the past. As more young people realise the commercial advantages of learning a second or third language at school, can it really be that difficult for our exporters to find better-trained operators who are not simply monoglot?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Mrs Bottomley's announcement on hospital closures

From Lord Annan

Sir, For 30 years reports have been written and schemes put forward for improving medical care and teaching in London [reports, April 5 and 6]. Everyone who has studied the problem accepts that specialist services are duplicated, too few patients live near the sites in inner London and those in outer London are deprived. Everyone agrees that the first priority is to improve primary care and help general practitioners. Medical research has been hampered by too many small departments and isolated institutes.

We now have a blueprint for the future. There are to be four main teaching institutions, composed of a cluster of hospitals each attached to a multi-faculty college of the University of London. Certain hospitals in outer London are to be upgraded. These proposals have been aired openly for the last two years and the most astonishing complaint is that there has been no consultation. What has been lacking is not consultation but decisions.

In any reorganisation there are bound to be losers. In fact the announcement shows that the Secretary of State has done her best to sugar the pill: for instance to pledge that yet further studies will be made to see what medical use can be made of the historic Smithfield site.

Perhaps the losers should remember that many regiments in the Army, as proud of their traditions, battle honours and history as any hospital, recognised with grief but with fortitude that amalgamations had to take place in the interests of efficiency. They bit upon the bullet.

Those who want to stir up bitterness should reflect that, in northwest and west London, institutions which only a short time ago were refusing to surrender their independence are now co-operating and moving into a new and more enterprising era.

Yours etc,
NOEL ANNAN,
House of Lords.
April 5.

From Miss Diana A. Bond

Sir, Virginia Bottomley's hospital programme has been happening for nearly three years. For MPs suddenly to leap to their feet in apparent bewilderment at events which have irreversibly damaged and closed London hospitals defies belief.

It wasn't Virginia Bottomley who was scared to come to the House just to confirm what she had already done, but the MPs who were frightened to confront her while she was doing it.

Yours,
DIANA A. BOND,
The Garden Flat, 3 Heath Villas,
The Vale of Health, NW3.
April 6.

From Lord Jenkin of Roding

Sir, The howls of dismay that have greeted Virginia Bottomley's announcement about hospital services in London fall very strangely on the ears of those who provide hospital and community health services in deprived inner London areas. The protesters seem to have lost sight entirely of the main rationale for restructuring acute hospital services in central London, namely, the need to channel millions more pounds into primary and community services in inner London.

Almost twice as many GPs in London work single-handed compared with the national average. In the southern part of Waltham Forest, which the Forest Healthcare NHS Trust looks after, 65 per cent of doctors work on their own.

Already, the Family Health Services Authority is getting significant help with extra funding to tackle the deficiencies and begin to bring primary care services nearer the standards that are accepted as normal elsewhere in the country. This trust is playing a full part by investing in health centres and helping the FHSA to build primary healthcare teams.

It is now widely accepted in the health service that what we now need is a primary care-led service. This is what patients want; it is what doctors have known for years to be necessary; and it is what the reforms in London are now beginning to create.

I wish to goodness those who keep harking back to 700 years of this, or centuries of tradition of that, would lift their eyes and look at what is happening around them. Those of us seeking to build a modern, community-based health service in London have little patience with those who appear to seek only to cling to the time warps of the past. Virginia Bottomley is to be congratulated for sticking to her guns — she and her advisers are absolutely right.

Yours etc,
PATRICK JENKIN (Chairman),
Forest Healthcare NHS Trust,
PO Box 13, Claybury Hall,
Woodford Green, Essex.
April 5.

From Mr J. R. Garnham

Sir, That hospitals can move and retain their name is self-evident (eg, Charing Cross and Addenbrookes). That they can move, change their name and recall a long history involving earlier names is also a fact (eg, the Middlesex and Mount Vernon).

Is there any valid reason why Bart's cannot move and amalgamate with its name, reputation, charitable funding and dedicated staff to another site in Greater London for the benefit of a residential population?

The heritage lobby will ensure that the older parts of Bart's will not be razed to the ground. There may be many people in the City who might like a retirement home in the parish of St Bartholomew the Less.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. GARNHAM,
Belton, Poplar Lane,
Bransgore,
Christchurch, Dorset.
April 6.

From Dr P. J. Sleight

Sir, In 1973, as a medical student I took part in a re-creation of St Bartholomew's Fayre to mark the 850th anniversary of Bart's Hospital. It was said that Bart's was the oldest institution in England other than the Church and the State.

I cannot believe that any government can deliberately close down a hospital that was tending the sick 92 years before Magna Carta was signed.

Yours faithfully,
PETER SLEIGHT
(Consultant physician),
Torbay Hospital,
Lawes Bridge,
Torquay, Devon.
April 5.

From Mrs W. Birch Reynardson

Sir, The fact that St Bartholomew's Hospital has been on the site since 1123 might possibly, in the interests of modern health care, be a good reason for closing it. It cannot possibly be a good reason for keeping it open. In my opinion it is totally irrelevant to the issue.

Yours faithfully,
NIK BIRCH REYNARDSON,
(Member of Oxford Regional Health Authority, 1978-81; Oxfordshire Health Authority, 1982-90).
Adwell House, Adwell,
Nr Thame, Oxfordshire.
April 5.

Attempt to curb child sex tourism

From the Director of Anti-Slavery International and others

Sir, British men openly admitted during Monday night's ITV *World in Action* programme that they are able to sexually exploit children in Eastern Europe. This investigation clearly highlights the need for this country to follow the example adopted in most other European and industrialised nations by introducing a law allowing UK citizens to be tried here for sexual offences against children overseas.

Campaigning for such legislation was one of the foremost aims of our organisations when together we formed the Coalition on Child Prostitution and Tourism last year. But the Home Office has so far opposed legislation, saying that it would not result in successful prosecutions. The Government's stance is likely to prevent passage in the House of Commons of Lord Hylton's Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill, which would allow for UK prosecutions.

So far the Bill has had two successful readings in the House of Lords, receiving backing from two former law lords and a former Solicitor-General. The final Lords reading is scheduled for April 19.

In the light of Monday's programme we believe the Government should reconsider its opposition to the Bill and take responsibility for the conduct of its own nationals, whose actions are contributing to a serious and growing problem of child sex tourism, especially in countries such as Thailand, Sri Lanka and Brazil.

Yours faithfully,
LESLEY ROBERTS,
Director, Anti-Slavery International,
MIKE AARONSON
(Director of Overseas Department, Save the Children (UK)),
JULIAN FILOCHOWSKI
(Director, Cafod),
DANNY SMITH
(Director, Jubilee Campaign),
P. B. TYLER
(Associate Director, Christian Aid),
Coalition on Child Prostitution and Tourism,
c/o Anti-Slavery International,
Unit 4, Stableyard,
Broomgrove Road, SW9.
April 4.

M25 widening

From the Chairman of Surrey County Council

Sir, In your report on plans to relieve congestion on the M25 (April 3) you refer to this county council's support for a proposal to widen the motorway to ten lanes between junctions 12 and 16. What the council has in fact said is that one possible option would be the widening of the M25 between junctions 13 and 15 (ie, from the A30 to the M4) to ten lanes. This is the only section built originally as eight lanes and the additional lanes would be wholly within the existing highway.

The section of the M25 between junctions 12 and 13 (M3 to A30) is environmentally very sensitive and is close to residential areas. The council would not support widening beyond the current eight lanes over this section.

Yours faithfully,
CECILIA GERRARD,
Chairman, Surrey County Council,
County Hall, Penrhyn Road,
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.
April 3.

Reunion in Denmark

From Mr Norman Henderson

Sir, May I add a footnote to your obituary (April 3) of Wing Commander James Storrar. In the week before his death he had the spirit, though he was obviously unwell, to take part in the ceremonies in Denmark on March 21 marking the 50th anniversary of the raid by Mosquitoes on the Gestapo headquarters at Shell House, Copenhagen. He himself had flown with the Mustang escort on that operation, and it was inspiring to see him so greatly enjoying the reunion with other veteran Mosquito and Mustang aircrew and with members of the wartime Danish resistance.

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN HENDERSON,
Flat N, Dormy House, Portnall Drive,
Virginia Water, Surrey.

Advice at a price

From Mr Peter A. Bellan

Sir, Civil servants hired Concorde for "less than £100,000" so that John Major could take 30 advisers to the USA (report, April 3).

That he needs so much advice is obvious, but could someone explain why these advisers could not fly in advance, by any airline offering return fares of under £300, not an average of over £3,000?

Yours faithfully,
PETER A. BELLAN,
Rose Cottage,
The Common, Dunsfold, Surrey.
April 3.

Major's hand

From Lord Quirk, FBA

Sir, The graphologists rabbiting on about what a letter to the mother of a condemned man might reveal about the Prime Minister's character (Diary, April 5) seem to have overlooked one notable clue: not short of secretarial help, he chose to write the entire letter in his own hand.

Yours faithfully,
RANDOLPH QUIRK,
House of Lords.
April 5.

'Madness' Oscar

From Mr Martin Childs

Sir, I was shocked and upset by Margot Norman's article, "The madness of British film-making" (March 29), in which she suggested that I should have been awarded the Oscar this year for best art direction in the place of Ken Adam and Carolyn Scott.

I was art director on *The Madness of King George*, *Mary Shelley's Frankenstein* and *Much Ado About Nothing*. (The term "supervising" art director is sometimes used to clarify the pecking order in larger art departments.)

My job is to head the team which will help the production designer realise his ideas. What is seen on screen is his.

There is, quite rightly, no category at the Academy Awards for what I do. It can be measured only by the efficiency with which it is carried out.

This article not only trivialised the contributions of Ken Adam and Carolyn Scott to the film *The Madness of King George*; it also, by implication, did the same to Tim Harvey's work on *Frankenstein* and *Much Ado*.

Yours,
MARTIN CHILDS,
36 Cornwall Road, SE1.
April 2.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Global warming

From Dr Robin Russell Jones

Sir, According to Matt Ridley ("Beware of the greens who cry wolf", March 25) we don't need to worry about global warming because environmentalists are by nature alarmist, whilst scientists are "herd animals" who follow the consensus view. What an appalling misrepresentation of the truth.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was established by the United Nations to provide a reliable body of scientific data as a basis for governmental decisions worldwide. Over 300 scientists have contributed to these documents and the chairman, Sir John Houghton, heads our own Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution.

Anyone requiring a sound scientific appraisal of global warming would be well advised to rely upon IPCC reports.

Mr Ridley is also wrong about the environmental movement. From 1984 to 1989 I chaired the pollution advisory committee at Friends of the Earth, and during that time we campaigned for tighter radiation standards, the introduction of unleaded petrol and catalytic converters to control vehicle pollution, and the phasing out of CFCs and other ozone-destroying chemicals. The Government accepted the validity of all these campaigns and legislation has followed.

I have no doubt that the same will happen eventually with global warming. The danger of course is that the longer remedial measures are delayed, the less likely they are to be effective.

The importance of an international agreement at the UN climate conference in Berlin this week cannot be overstated.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN RUSSELL JONES,
St Thomas' Hospital,
Lambeth Palace Road, SE1.
April 5.

Clause Four ballot

From Mr Andrew Tringham

Sir, You report (April 1) Jeremy Hanley's claim that Tony Blair is a "Trojan horse", controlled by, among others, "lefties". As a constituency Labour Party secretary and self-confessed "leftie" I should be grateful to know exactly how I make the controls of this Trojan horse work.

With Clause Four ballot papers appearing on my doormat every morning, roughly ten to one in favour of the leadership proposals, the only conclusion I can come to is that Blair is absolutely in control and has the overwhelming support of Labour Party membership. While neither Mr Hanley nor I may like these facts, a claim that they are not true is really rather silly.

Yours faithfully,
A. P. TRINGHAM,
70 Havelock Road, Croydon, Surrey.

Monetary union

From Mr James Forder

Sir, In his *Panorama* interview on April 3 Mr Major told us that a decision on joining a monetary union must await the determination of "the input of the British Parliament" into the control of policy.

Article 107 of the Maastricht treaty, signed by Mr Major, says that the European Central Bank will not "seek or take instructions from ... any government of a Member State or from any other body" and that governments of the Member States will not "seek to influence" the bank. This makes it rather clear that the input of the British Parliament to the management of policy will be nil.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES FORDER
(Fellow in Economics),
St Peter's College, Oxford.
April 5.

Heritage staff review

From the Chairman of English Heritage

Sir, I hope you will allow me to clarify some of the points made in your report of April 3, "Staff sell-off defended by English Heritage".

Our practice at English Heritage is to conduct efficiency reviews annually. One of this year's reviews covers our design and works staff. This process is entirely separate from our intention to privatise, over three years, our direct labour force of around 200 people which was announced and agreed with the unions in 1992 and will be completed by March 1996.

Those affected by the design and works efficiency review are the "service providers" and are solely employed on the historic properties in our care. The staff of Conservation Group, who provide the expert advice to other organisations and individuals, are not affected.

No decision on the future of the design and works staff has been made and any proposal will have to be agreed by English Heritage commissioners before being put to the Department of National Heritage. Whatever decision is made, all work on English Heritage properties will continue to be managed, and the work specified and monitored, by English Heritage staff.

Yours sincerely,
JOCELYN STEVENS,
Chairman, English Heritage,
23 Savile Row, W1.
April 5.

Business letters, page 27

Everyman spurned

From Mr Michael Churcher

Sir, I suspect that the reason for Axminster library's rejection of the Everyman volumes ("It's no man's library now", March 28) may have been the politically incorrect title of the series.

Yours faithfully,
M. J. CHURCHER,
12 Busketts Way,
Ashurst, Southampton, Hampshire.

All at sea?

From Mr Vladimir Rubinstein

Sir, As we watch the beautiful German-built *Oriana* slide into Southampton harbour (report and photographs, April 4) our "feel-good" factor takes yet another knock.

Yours faithfully,
V. RUBINSTEIN,
The White Cottage,
Harpsden, Oxfordshire.

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE

April 6: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this morning arrived at Southampton Eastern Docks and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Hampshire (Mrs Mary Fagan), the Chairman, the Peninsula and Oriental Steam Navigation Company (the Lord Sterling of Plaistow), the Chairman, Associated British Ports Holdings (Sir Keith Stuart) and the Mayor of Southampton (Councillor Edward Read).

Her Majesty named *MV Oriana* and, with His Royal Highness, embarked in the ship and were received by the Master (Commodore Ian Gibb).

The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, honoured the Lord Sterling of Plaistow with her presence at Luncheon in the Crichton Room.

Afterwards Her Majesty and His Royal Highness toured the ship, escorted respectively by the Lord Sterling of Plaistow and Mr Timothy Harris (Chairman, Peninsula and Oriental Cruises) and met members of the crew and guests.

The Lady Farnham, Sir Kenneth Scott, Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis and Major James Patrick were in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

April 6: The Princess Royal today, on behalf of The Queen, took the Parade at Lord High Admiral's *Divisions at the Britannia* Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, and was received by Her Majesty's *Lord-Lieutenant for Devon* (Lieutenant Colonel the Earl of Morley).

Lady Carew Pole was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

April 5: The Duke of York was represented by Colonel Michael Appleton at the Funeral of Colonel Frank McEachren in the Timothy Eaton Memorial Church, Toronto, Canada, this afternoon.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE

April 6: The Duke of Kent, President-in-Chief, the British Racing Drivers' Club, this morning *opened the new Pits Complex and* Medical Centre, Silverstone Circuit, near Towcester, *Northamptonshire.*

Captain Marcus Barnett was in attendance.

The Duke of Kent, Royal Fellow, this evening attended a Bakerian Lecture, the Royal Society, Carlton House Terrace, *London SW1*, followed by dinner at the Athenaeum, Waterloo Place, London SW1.

Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK

April 6: Princess Alexandra, Patron and Air Chief Commandant of Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, this afternoon received Group Captain V.M. Hand upon retiring as Matron-in-Chief and Group Captain R.H. Williams on assuming this appointment.

Her Royal Highness, Patron of the 17th World Congress of the International Union of Angiology, *this evening* attended a Gala Dinner at the Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, London W.1.

Mrs Peter Afia was in attendance.

Birthdays today

Mr Dennis Amiss, cricketer, 51; Viscount Brentford, 62; Miss Fredda Brilliant, *sculptor, 57*; Mr Jean Colonna, fashion designer, 40; Mr Francis Ford Coppola, film *director*, 56; Mr Gerry Cottle, circus proprietor, 50; Sir Geoffrey Cox, former Editor and Chief *Executive, ITN*, 85; Mr Luca Cumani, racehorse trainer, 46; Professor Graeme Davies, former *Vice-Chancellor, Liverpool University*, 58; Professor D.R. Denman, land economist, 84; Mr Peter Fluck, satirist and puppeteer, 54; Sir David Frost, broadcaster, 56; Mr F.L. Garner, former chairman, Pearl Assurance, 75; Mr James Garner, actor, 67; Lord Glendevon, 83; Dr Terence Harrison, chief executive, Rolls-Royce, 62; Vice-Admiral Sir Arthur Hezlet, 81; Mr D.N. Ireland, Headmaster, Loughborough Grammar School, 59; Mr Gorden Kaye, actor, 54; Mr Martyn Lewis, broadcaster, 50; His Honour John MacManus, 75; Mr Cliff Morgan, former head of Outside Broadcasting, BBC Television, 65; Mr Arthur K. Power, Indian civil servant, 90; *Mrs Jane Priestman, former* director, architecture and design, British Rail, 65; Mr Ian Richardson, *actor, 61*; Mr *Andrew Sachs, actor*, 65; Pandit Ravi Shankar, sitar player, 75; Group Captain Mary Shaw, former *Director and Matron-in-Chief*, PMRAFNS, 62; Miss Alison Shrubsole, former Principal, Homerton College, 70; Mr David J. Williams, Chief Constable, Surrey, 54; Mr Mark Wolfson, MP, 61.

University news

King's College London

The Rev Timothy Ditchfield has been appointed Chaplain of King's College London. Mr Ditchfield is at present curate of St John the Evangelist Church, Whittle-le-Woods. He is also World Development Officer and diocesan development education representative for Blackburn.

Today's royal engagements

The Prince of Wales will visit the Rainbows Children's Hospice, Lark Rise, Loughborough, at 10.45; as President of the Prince's Trusts, will attend a reception at the Diamond Centre, Irthlingborough, at 12.40; as President of Business in the Community, will visit the Northamptonshire Charter for Youth Initiative recycling project at the Interlink Haven, Holly Road, Northampton, at 2.15; and will meet members of the Northamptonshire Interdependency Group at the Diversion *Unit, 198 Kettering Road*, at 2.45.

The Princess Royal, as Patron of the International Rescue Corps, will attend an informal open day at the International Rescue Corps headquarters, Glory Mill Papers, High Wycombe, at 2.30.

Princess Margaret will attend a silent auction at Cortachy Castle, Kirriemuir, Angus, at 7pm in aid of the British Red Cross Angus branch.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: St Francis Xavier, Jesuit missionary, Navarre, Spain, 1506; William Wordsworth, poet, Cockermouth, 1770; Bronislaw Malinowski, anthropologist, Kraków, 1884; Gabriela Mistral, poet, Nobel laureate 1945, Vicuna, Chile, 1889; *Sir David Low*, political cartoonist, Dunedin, New Zealand, 1891; Billie Holiday, jazz singer, Baltimore, *Maryland*, 1915.

DEATHS: King Richard I, reigned 1189-99, Chalun, France, 1199; Dick Turpin, highwayman, executed, York, 1739; Theda Bara, silent film star, Los Angeles, 1955.

Mount Vesuvius erupted, 1906.

WHO (World Health Organisation) established in Geneva, 1948.

Swedish Civil Servant Dag Hammarskjöld elected UN Secretary General, 1953.

CND supporters marched from London to Aldermaston in a ban-*the-bomb protest*, 1958.

ROBIN MAYES



Len Crickmar on Shadwell Steps at Wapping, one of 252 access points to the tidal Thames. But many of them are not open to the public

Veteran wins fight for access to Thames

BY IAN MURRAY
COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

LEN CRICKMAR, a former Royal Navy commando, has won a 13-year battle to reopen *the historic stairs and access* paths from Docklands to the Thames, which have fallen into disuse over half a century.

The local government ombudsman has told Tower Hamlets Council to prepare a timetable for carrying out the necessary work and ordered it to pay him £500 compensation for all the effort he has put in to proving his case. With the money he now means to press on with plans to run a Thames pleasure boat service for pensioners and the disabled.

Mr Crickmar, 72, was born and brought up in Stepney and as a boy used the river as a playground. "We would run down for a swim and to lark about," he said. "The steps were there and it was just like going out into the backyard."

His apprenticeship as a lighterman was interrupted by the war and he saw service with the Merchant Navy, the commandos and in Kenya. He later worked as a tugboatman in Africa and the Gulf, but he always preferred to work on "my river".

However as the docks closed and developers moved in he found that the stairways and pathways to the Thames were blocked off. His legal battle to preserve the historic rights of way began in 1982. He found that illegal decisions had been taken to close steps after a child drowned and that in other places developers had just closed pathways leading to the river.

The Port of London Authority agrees that there are 252 access points to the tidal river, but says ownership and responsibility for many is unclear. Mr Crickmar, however, persuaded the ombudsman that at least 23 of those access points were the responsibility of Tower Hamlets.

He is looking forward to seeing the stairs and pathways back in use. "The Thames is a wonderful thing and we should use it much more than we do," he said.

Memorial service

Lady (David) Kelly

The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs was represented by *Sir Timothy Daunt* at a memorial Mass for Lady (Marie Noële) Kelly concelebrated by *Father Patrick Nolan and* Father Stephen Ortiger, OSB, yesterday at the Church of the Holy Redeemer, Cheyne Row.

Mr Dominic Kelly, grandson, led the bidding prayers and Mr Nicholas Kelly, grandson, read the lesson. Father Jean-Marie Charles-Roux gave an address.

The Right Rev Kenneth Riches and Mgr Alfred Gilbey, also representing the Sovereign Military Order of *Malta*, and *Father* Ronald Creighton-Jobe were robed and in the sanctuary. Miss Joya Logan, soprano, sang *Ave Maria*.

The Belgian Ambassador attended and the Turkish Ambassador was represented by Mr *U.K. Ipek*. Among others present were: Mr Bernard and Lady Mirabel *Kelly and Mr and Mrs Laurence* Kelly (sons and daughters-in-law), Mrs Dominic Kelly, Mr Anthony Noël Kelly, Mr and Mrs Crispin *Kelly, Mrs Benedict Kelly*, Mr Sebastian Kelly, Mr Justin Kelly, Mrs Charles Arbuthnot, Mr and Mrs Sebastian Grigg and Mr and *Mrs Sergei Revlakin* (grandchildren), Sabine, Alice and Celina Kelly (great-grandchildren), Baronne Van den Branden, (sister), *M and Mme Maurice de Ramaix* (stepson-in-law and stepdaughter), Mme E Rutten (step-granddaughter), Comtesse de Limburg-Stirum, *Comte H de Limburg-Stirum*, Comte Antoine Du Chastel de la Howarderie, Baron and Baronne Bernard Snoy, Baronne Alexandra Snoy, Baron Peter Snoy, Comtesse Snoy et d'Oppuers, Marquis and Marquise Radigues Saint Guedal de Chennevière, Vicomtesse de Jonghe d'Ardoye, Mme Pierre Mouriau de Meulenacker, Mme Eugen Prokop, Mme Moretus de Plantain de Bouchout, Mme Renaud Querton, Baronne Patrick Snoy, Baron and Baronne de Villenfagne de Vogelsanck, Mme Radzizsky d'Ostrowyck, Comte and Comtesse d'Ansembourg, M and Mme Jean-Marie Regoul, Comte Jacques Senard, Comte and Comtesse Olivier Senard, Comte and Comtesse Thiery de Sayve, Mme Edourd Jadot, Vicomte and Vicomtesse de Villette, M and Mme Hubert de Preslé and other members of the family.

Mrs Birsen Onhon, the Duke and Duchess of Norfolk, the Duchess of Portland, Patricia Countess Jellicoe, the Earl of Courtown, Patricia Countess of Courtown, the Countess of Lisburne, the Countess of Gainsborough, Judith Countess of Liswowell, the Earl of Longford, KG, and the Countess of *Longford*, Major-General Viscount and Viscountess Monckton of Brenchley, Lord and Lady Michael Fitzalan Howard, Lady Martin *Fitzalan Howard*, Lord and Lady Mark Fitzalan Howard.

Lady Northbourne Lord and Lady Craigmyle, Lady Killearn, the Dowager Lady Egremont, Lady Torphichen, Mrs Kenneth Riches, Lady Marigold Jamieson, Lady Felicity McIndoe, Lady Barbara Bossom, the Hon Lady de Zulueta, the Hon John Jolliffe, the Hon Mrs Martin Cullen, the Hon Gerald Noel, the Hon Mrs B Coles, the Hon *Miles Jebb, Sir Harold Hood*, Frances Lady Jenkinson, Lady Moncreiffe of that Ilk, Sir Dermot de Trafford.

Sir Frank Roberts, Sir Richard Parsons, Sir Donald Logan and Lady Logan (Anglo-Belgian Society), Lady Pilcher, Sir John *Morgan, Lady Emery (ISS), Sir* George and Lady Middleton, Lady Coulson, Lady Barnes, Sir Derek Dodson (Anglo-Turkish Society), *Lady Villiers, Sir Carron and Lady* Greig, Sir Peregrine Worsthorne, Lady Bayliss, Lady Wakefield, Sir Bernard and Lady Burrows, Sir *Archibald and Lady Ross*, Lady Harrison.

Princess Claire de Croy, Count and Countess Joseph Czernin, Count F *de Curzon, Baron Vaes, Baron and* Baroness Herbert Rothschild, Mr and Mrs E F Ghyssels, Mr and Mrs Mark Elwes, Mr and Mrs Gervase *Elwes, Mr and Mrs Tom Burns, Dr* B MacGreevy, Mr Tomothy Gee, Mrs Robin Orr, Mrs Edward Sutro, Miss Anne Riches, Mrs David *Tabor, Professor Isabel de* Madariaga, Mrs David Sutherland, Mr Kenneth Rose, Mr and Mrs Mark Girouard, Miss *Miranda Kazanizis*, Mr and Mrs Anthony Montague Browne, Mrs Charles Williams, Mrs Michael Alison, Miss Claire Oliver, Mr Alex *Eaglestone, Colonel T A Pace*, Mrs Humphrey Brooke, Mr and Mrs Simon Fraser, Mr Harry Greenway, Mr Mr Philip German-Ribon, Mrs *Hugh Morgan, Mr and Mrs J A* Dobbs, Mr J P Waterfield.

Mr D Heathcote, Professor Alfred Marnau, Mrs K Digby Jones, Major *and Mrs R W Smith, Mr and Mrs R* A Partridge-Jackson, Mr and Mrs C Bunce, Mrs F Attlee, Mr and Mrs H V Hodson, Mrs Nigel McNair Scott, Miss Susan Ross, Mr Thomas Lyttelton, Mr George Ireland, Major and Mrs John Macdonald, Mr Robert de Stacpoole, Mrs Marina de Stacpoole, Commander Francis Ponsonby, Professor Michael Rogers, Mme Isabelle de la Tallie, Miss G Welford, Mrs S G Ault (Belgian Benevolent Fund), Mr David Griffiths (Atlantic Council of the United Kingdom), Mr John V Monckton (Foreign & Colonial Management) and Ms Margaret Skarland (St Clare's International College, Oxford).

Timothy Clifford, Director of the National Galleries of Scotland, Mr Ned Sherrin and Mr Brian Nicholson, chairman of the club, were the speakers. After the dinner *Mr John* Sunley was installed as the new chairman.

All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club

Mr John Curry, Chairman of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club Wimbledon, presided at the annual dinner held at the Institute of Directors last night. Mr Brian Tobin, President of the International Tennis Federation, and Mr Dennis Silk also spoke.

United Oxford and Cambridge University Club

Dr Alex Reid, Director-General of the Royal Institute of British Architects, was the principal speaker at a dinner of the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club held at the clubhouse last night. Mr Gerald Bowden, chairman, presided.

University of Kent at Canterbury

Mr Justice Stephen Sedley was the speaker at the first annual Kent Law School Alumni Dinner, held at the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn on April 6.

Luncheons

HM Government

The Hon Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday in honour of Mr Hikmet Cetin, Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey.

British Red Cross

Viscount Tonypandy was the host at a luncheon held yesterday at the Four Seasons hotel to mark the 125th birthday year of the British Red Cross. Mr John F. Gray, Director of Public Affairs, British Red Cross, and Mr Michael Bearcroft, Chairman of the Nationwide Physiotherapy Service, also spoke.

Dinners

Inner Temple

Lord Justice Hirst, Treasurer of the Inner Temple, and Mr Justice Waterhouse, Treasurer of the Middle Temple, and Masters of the Bench of the Inner Temple and the Middle Temple entertained the *Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs* and Aldermen of the City of London at dinner last night at the Inner *Temple Hall. Among those present* were:

The Lady Mayoress, Mrs Richard Nichols, Mrs Jonathan Charkham, Commander and Alderman Sir Robin and Lady Gillett, Alderman Sir Peter and Lady Gadsden, Alderman Sir David and Lady Rowe-Ham, Alderman Sir Hugh and Lady Bidwell, Alderman Sir Alexander and Lady Graham, Alderman Sir Francis and Lady McWilliams, Alderman Sir Peter and Lady Levene, the Recorder of London *and Lady Verney, Mr* Alderman and Mrs John Chalstrey, Mr Alderman and Mrs Roger Cork, Mr Alderman and Mrs Clive *Martin, Mr Alderman and Mrs* Bryan Toye, Mr Alderman and Mrs Anthony Bull, Mr Alderman and Mrs David Howard, Mr Alderman and Mrs Michael Oliver, Mr Alderman Gavyn Arthur, Mr Alderman and Mrs Robert Finch, the Chief Commoner and Mrs Bird, Mr Deputy Michael Cassidy, Mr and Mrs Anthony Moss and the City Marshal.

Saints and Sinners Club

The annual dinner of the Saints and Sinners Club was held last night at the Savoy Hotel. Mr

Supper

Franco-British Society

The French Ambassador attended the annual meeting and supper of the Franco-British Society held last night at the RAF Club, Piccadilly. Lord Strabolgi, a vice-president, presided and presented the society's Landscape Gardening Award for 1993 to Mr David Austin of David Austin Roses. Lady Strabolgi presented the Enid *McLeod Literary prize* for 1994 to Mr Jonathan Keates. Mr Alistair Horne was the guest speaker and *Sir Reginald Hibbert, chairman*, also spoke.

Furniture Makers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Furniture Makers' Company for the ensuing year:

Master, Mr A.F.P. Alston; Senior Warden, Mr H.P. Josselyne; Junior Warden, Mr C.E.F. Brett.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.E.J. Cook and Miss E.A. Benham

The engagement is announced between Martin, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Cook, of Selsey, West Sussex, and Elizabeth, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Benham, of Harrow, Middlesex.

Dr M.J. Crosswaite and Miss S.R. Sherlock

The engagement is announced between Matthew, youngest son of Gordon and Anthea Crosswaite, of Harrogate, North Yorkshire, and Sophie, youngest daughter of David and Cally Sherlock, of Billingshurst, West Sussex.

Mr J.A. Edge and Miss E.L. Garlinge

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Mr and Mrs A.J. Edge, of Climping, West Sussex, and Elaine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs L. Garlinge, of Tankerton, Kent.

Mr W.J.T. Fugard and Miss J.A. Lloyd-Price

The engagement is announced between William, younger son of Major General and Mrs Michael Fugard, of Salisbury, Wiltshire, and Juliet, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs David Lloyd-Price, of Kensington, London.

Mr J.R.D. Hall and Miss A. Morton

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, second son of Mr and Mrs Bernard Hall, of *Stoneygate, Leicester, and Astrid*, youngest daughter of Mr Thomas Morton and of Señora Marisa Ramos, *of Montevideo, Uruguay*.

Mr A.C.J. Lee and Miss K.A. Fulford

The engagement is announced between Adrian, only son of Mr Alan Lee, of Clapham, London, and Mrs Carol Lee, of Poole, Dorset, and Katie, younger daughter of Mr Richard Fulford, of Chelsea, London, and Mrs Ian Bowie, of Northington, Alresford, Hampshire.

Dr S.G.B. Patten and Dr G.L. Whiteley

The engagement is announced between Samuel, son of Mr and Mrs Barry Patten, of Toorak, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, and Gillian, daughter of Mr and Mrs Gordon Whiteley, of Poulton le Fylde, Lancashire. The wedding will take place in Melbourne on November 25, 1995.

Mr E.P.T. Roney and Mrs E. Bridge

The engagement is announced between Patrick Roney, CBE, of London, SW19, and Eileen Bridge, of London, SW13.

Mr P.D. Rubens and Miss T.R.O. Smouha

The engagement is announced between Piers, elder son of Mr and Mrs Alan Rubens, of Harborne, Birmingham, and Tanya, daughter of Mr and Mrs Derrick Smouha, of Geneva, Switzerland.

Marriage

Mr M.R. Thomas and Miss A.J. Field

The marriage took place on Saturday, April 1, 1995, at Jesus College Chapel, Oxford, between Martin Thomas and Alison Field.

A reception was held at the Randolph Hotel and the honeymoon will be spent in Sri Lanka.

School news

Monmouth School

Monmouth School has made the following awards for September 1995:

Sixth Form Awards

Academic Scholarship: *Thomas* Meredith, Hereford Cathedral School; Stephen O'Keefe, Crickhowell Comprehensive.

Exhibition: *Nathan Welch, St John's* College, Cardiff.

Third Form Awards

Foundation Scholarship: Andrew *Fowler, Downs School, Colwall*; Thomas McHugh, St John's, Porthcawl.

Exhibition: Joseph Holdsworth, St *John's-on-the-Hill, Chepstow*; Christopher Price, Cathedral School, Llandaff; Benjamin Tibbetts, St Richard's, Bredenbury.

Felsted Preparatory School

All former pupils and staff of Felsted Preparatory School are invited to the Centenary Day (1895-1995) on Sunday, April 30, 1995. For further details contact the Headmaster's Secretary.

Latest wills

Lady Carol Vivien Bracewell-Smith, of Cookham, Berkshire, left estate valued at £862,825 net.

Mr Ian Lucien Serraillier, of Singleton, West Sussex, author of *many books for children including The Silver Sword*, left estate valued at £175,954.

Other estates (net before tax):

Serena Alexandra Blaikie Bateman, of London, SW10 ..... £988,846

Mr Arthur John Chaplin, of Horton Kirby, Kent £744,016

Appointments

Mr Peter Ord, 47, to be Resident Factor for the royal estate at *Balmoral in succession to Martin* Leslie, who is retiring in October.

Mr Peter Jennings to be Serjeant at *Arms in the House of Commons*.

Mr David Leslie Smallman to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of St Helena.

Mr James Daly to be British High Commissioner to the Government of Vanuatu.

Mr Roger Bone to be Ambassador to Sweden.

Legal

Crispin Grant Masterman, 50, to be a circuit judge on the Wales and Chester Circuit.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Sheila Banyard, Chaplain to Malvern Girls' College: to be Team Vicar, Droitwich Spa Team Ministry (Worcester).

The Rev Ann Barnett, Curate, St Nathaniel, Platt Bridge: to be Vicar, Skelmersdale Ecumenical Centre (Liverpool).

The Rev Tony Betts, Rector, Knaresborough and Assistant Rural Dean of Harrogate: now Rural Dean of Harrogate (Ripon).

The Rev Stephen Brown, Curate, St Matthew, Chapel Allerton: to be Rector, Stanningley (Ripon).

The Rev David Christie, Curate, Drypool (York): to be Vicar, Hornby, Crakehall and Patrick Brompton w. Hunton (Ripon).

The Rev Audrey Cosens, Assistant Curate, St Andrew, Westcliff: to be Priest-in-charge, St Andrew Chelmsford, and The Chignals w. Mashbury (Chelmsford).

The Rev Philip Dykes, Curate, *Morden Team Ministry: to be* Assistant Curate, St Peter, St Helier, w. special responsibility for Bishop Andrewes Church (Southwark).

The Rev David Eaton, Assistant Curate, Billericay and Little Burstead *Team Ministry: to be Priest-in-*charge, Vange (Chelmsford).

The Rev Anthony Evans, Rector, All Hallows, Ordsall and StAlban, Retford: to be Priest-in-charge, St Mary Magdalene, Sutton-in-Ashfield (Southwell).

The Rev Hilary Eve, Curate, St Andrew, Coulsdon: to be Curate (part-time), St Andrew, Coulsdon, and Chaplain (part-time), Harestone Marie Curie Centre, Caterham (Southwark).

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Rod and reprimand impart wisdom, but an uncontrolled *youth brings shame on his* mother.
Proverbs 29 : 15 (REB).

BIRTHS

BARTON - On March 30th, to Henry and Frances (née Emrys-Roberts), a son, Christopher Michael Emrys, a brother for Jessica.

BRODRICK - On April 2nd at 4.25 pm, to Kristin and James, a daughter, Elin Melinda, a sister to Emelie and Hannah.

CAULTON - On 6th April *1995, to Andrea* (née Holmes) and John (Colin), the gift of twin daughters.

GARSIDE - On 27th March *1995, to Alex* (née Warren-Piper) and Ian, a daughter, Jessica Helen, a sister for Michael Spencer.

HENDERSON - On 3rd April, to Fiona (née McLeod) and Alexander, a daughter, name still in dispute.

KIMBERLEY - On 27th March 1995, to Simon and Amanda - Barnabes James - son of encouragement.

KIRKMAN - On 29th March, to Sarah (née Hollingworth) and Patrick, a beautiful daughter, Isabella Mary MacDonald.

PAVITT - On April 6th 1995, in Canberra - Australia - to Eliza (née Eley) and Simon, a son, Thomas Henry Oliver.

SEDGWICK-DWANE - On 3rd April 1995, to Carey (née Sedgwick) and Neil, a daughter, Annabel Mary, a sister for Charlotte and *Sophie*.

SEDGWICK-DWANE - On 3rd April 1995, to Carey (née Sedgwick) and Neil, a daughter, Sophie Anne, a sister for Charlotte and Annabel.

VIGNE - *On 1 April to Helle* (née Jensen) and Piers Vigne, in Windhoek, Namibia, a daughter.

WATSON - On Tuesday 4th April, to Henrietta and Richard, twins, William and Eliza, brother and sister for Isabella.

WILSON - On 31st March, to Claire (Dillon) and Michael, a son, Nicholas Michael, a brother for Alexander and Thomas.

DEATHS

BALME - Tragically on April 3rd, as the result of Malaria, at St Thomas' Hospital, London, Roderick Stephen Balme, M.A.Cantab, aged 40 years, of Clapham, London. Beloved son of Victor and Peggie and brother of Simon. Service will take place at *Yeovil Crematorium* in Somerset on Tuesday April 11th at 2 pm. Flowers or donations, if desired, for The National Trust c/o Irish & Denman F/D, Palmer Street, South Petherton, Somerset TA13 5DB. tel: (01460) 240348.

BECHER - On April 1st in Hawtonville Hospital, Newark, after a short illness, Margaret Joan, of Leven House, Arisaig, Inverness-shire, aged 79. Funeral Service Southwell Minster Monday 10th April at 11.15am.

BELL - Jack, on 5th April 1995, peacefully at home. Husband of Estelle and father of Mike and Chris. Donations, if desired, to St Christopher's Hospice, Sydenham. SE26 6DZ.

CONSTANTINE - Lilian May "Nonna" on 3rd April peacefully at her home, *Drumchreran*, aged 86. Much loved wife of the late John Lupton and mother of Patricia, Anna and Shawn and her eight grandchildren and Jessica her first great-grandchild born 27th March. Funeral at Little Gaddesden 2.30 pm Monday 10th April. Donations if desired to: McMillan Nurses Appeal c/o George Soames, Funeral Directors, Victoria Road, Shefford, Bedfordshire SG17 5AL.

CUSWORTH - Alan, beloved husband of Bessie, died peacefully at home on 6th April 1995. Funeral Service at Shipton Moyne Church at 2.30 pm on Monday 10th April. Family flowers only, donations, if desired, to Cancer Research c/o L.E. Perry Funeral Directors, 13-15 Hampton Street, Tetbury, Glos.

DEATHS

DJALILI - Parvaneh, wife of Ahmad Djalili, Loving wife, mother and grandmother. Funeral Saturday 8th April 10.30 am New Southgate Cemetery, near Arnos Grove tube station. Memorial Service Kensington International Hilton, Holland Park Avenue, W11, Sunday 9th April 7 pm - 10 pm. Donations to Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

FLETCHER - On April 4th at Copped Hall, John Theodore Talbot, of Saltoun, aged 91. Funeral Service at Enfield Crematorium on Friday 7th April at 2.45 pm.

HARTOG - Roger Martin Philip (second son of Sir Philip and Lady Hartog), died 4th April 1995 aged 78, in St John of God Hospital, Scorton, North Yorkshire. Roger had a severe road accident and has resided for most of his life since 1966 in the care of the Brothers of St John of God. Leaves wife Kit, stepsons Ken and Mike; sons Richard, Philip and John and daughter Stephanie. Cremation at Darlington Crematorium, Carmel Road North, Darlington, today, Friday 7th April at 9.45 am. No flowers. Donations to St John of God Hospital, Scorton, North Yorkshire.

HAY - Quietly in hospital on 6th April 1995, Margaret Ann Hay M.B., Ch.B., of Aberdeen and latterly of the Home Office. Funeral Service on Thursday 13th April at Mortlake Crematorium at 12.30 pm. Family flowers, but donations if desired to The British Heart Foundation c/o W.S. Bond (0181) 748-3188.

HORSFORD - Peacefully at home on April 6th, Major Thomond O'Bryen Horsford, M.C., 11th Hussars (P.A.O.). Beloved husband of Elizabeth, father of Jacqueline, Angela and Martin, grandfather to his six grandchildren. Funeral Thursday 13th April at 2.30pm, Holy Trinity, Long Newnton. Enquiries to Funeral Director, L.E. Perry, (Tetbury) 01666 502295.

DEATHS

MARTIN - Maureen Fleming, At the Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, on Wednesday 5th April 1995, after a short illness very bravely borne but very peacefully at the end with her family around her. Darling wife of Hugh, beloved mother of Pat, Fiona, Eileen, Hugh, John and Michael, much loved grandmother (Nonì) and dearly loved mother-in-law, sister and sister-in-law. Requiem Mass on Tuesday 11th April at 10 am the Sacred Heart Church, Lauriston Street, Edinburgh and funeral thereafter to Mount Vernon Cemetery arriving there at 11 am. Maureen will be received to church on Monday evening at 6.10 pm. Eternal rest grant *unto her O Lord, May she* rest in peace.

ROBERTS - Rev. Canon Arthur *Gifford, Priest*, (Vicar of Shotton 1974-1994) aged 60 years. Requiem Mass in St Ethelwolds Church, Shotton, Deeside, Clwyd, on Tuesday 11th April 1995 at 12.30 pm. prior to Cremation at Blacon Crematorium, Chester at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only please but donations, if desired, to the Parish of Shotton. Further enquiries to O.W. Ellis F/D. tel: Deeside (01244) 814817 and Hawarden (01244) 532218.

SAMPLE - On April 6th, after a short illness at home, Major William Sample M.C., beloved husband of Sue, father and grandfather. Thanksgiving Service St Andrew's, Bolam, at 2.30 pm Tuesday April 11th. No flowers, nor letters. Donations, if desired, to Imperial Cancer Research Fund or Infured Jockeys Fund.

SCOTT - On 30th March 1995, Mary Katharine (Mollie) Scott (née Corbet) of Somerwood. A private cremation has taken place. A Memorial Service will be held at St Lucia's Church, Upton Magna, Shrewsbury, on Wednesday, 3rd May 1995, at 2.30 pm.

SCHNURMANN - Robert, aged 90 years, peacefully at Andrew Cohen House, Birmingham, on April 1st 1995, devoted husband of the late Alice. Funeral Service to be held at Robin Hood Crematorium, Birmingham, on Wednesday April 12th at 11.30 am. Family flowers only please but donations, if desired, to F.H. Garner Memorial Fund c/o N. Wheatley & Sons, 430 Moseley Road, Birmingham B12 9AT.

SHRUBBS - On April 4th 1995, peacefully with great dignity at the home of dear friends, following courageous acceptance of all possible treatment. Beloved and cherished wife of husband, Peter. Dearly loved by father, Pat Mathews, family and many friends. Maggie will be sadly missed. Requiem Mass at 11.30 am on Wednesday April 12th at Church of Immaculate Conception, The Green, Epping, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations, if so desired, in aid of Cancer Research and treatment c/o D.C. Poulton & Sons, Clarks Lane, Epping, Essex CM16 4NJ.

SUMMERS

Dorothy Marian, on 4th April 1995, peacefully in hospital after a brief illness, Dorothy, aged 71 years, of West Kirby, Wirral, late of Sandy Lane, Chester, beloved wife of *Ronald Thomas Summers*, much loved mum of Jeffrey, mother-in-law of Krystyna and devoted nana of Alex and Lawrence, dear sister of Joan, Freddy, Betty, Allen and Harry, also a loving aunt. Dorothy will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. The funeral service will be held on Thursday 13th April at St John the Baptist Church, Chester at 11.15 am, followed by committal service at Blacon Crematorium, Chester. Family flowers only by request. Donations, if desired, to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund. All enquiries Co-operative Funeral Services, 12 Lower Bridge Street, Chester, tel: (01244) 323870.

WEBB - On 5th April, Madaline Ruth, at Woodstock. Funeral Service at Oxford Crematorium on Thursday 13th April at 11.45 am. Family flowers only.

YULE - On April 5th 1995, very suddenly in her garden which she loved, Stella (née Linstil), aged 76, beloved wife of Jim, dearly loved mother of Caroline, Robert and Clare and grandmother of Christopher, Helen, Peter, George and Alistair. Cremation private. No mourning. No flowers. Donations to charity of personal choice. Service of Thanksgiving Friday 12th May at St Mary's Church, Kelvedon, at 2.30 pm.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

TILLMAN - A Commemoration of the life of Dr. Wolf George Tillman will be held at St George's Church, West Grinstead, on Friday 21st April at 2.30 pm.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

SYRNE - Lily-Lynne, died 7th April 1985. Remembered with love this day and every day by her family and friends.

PERFECT - Christopher, died 9/4/94, aged 47. In memory of a very much loved son, husband and father.

VOADEN - Graham Keith. Now with all our family - always loved - never forgotten.

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARIES

SANDELL-MAGNUS - Jessie Magnus to David Sandell F.R.C.S., on 9th April 1938.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

BIELBY-HUGHES - Warmest congratulations to my parents on this special occasion and my deepest thanks for all your love and support. Patricia.

COOK-JAMESON - On 7th April 1945 at St Paul's and St George's Church, York Place, Edinburgh, Captain Kenneth Clifford Cook, Intelligence Corps, only son of Mr and Mrs G. Kenneth Cook of Birkenhead to Barbara Isabel, elder daughter of the Right Honourable Lord Jamieson, P.C. and Lady Jamieson of 34 Moray Place, Edinburgh. (Present address 6 Fuz Road, Birkenhead).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SNEWIN - Roy Charles John, Bernice and her family wish to thank all friends and neighbours for their prayers, cards, letters and messages and for all the kind support that we have met while making arrangements for the funeral and the future.

BIRTHDAYS

BUNDY - Happy 10th Birthday Fiona, with love from the family.

DAMIAN ZARATTINI Congratulations Damian on your 21st birthday. Fondest love, Mum.

RICKETT, Stephen - Happy 40th Birthday, wishing you many years of pleasure. Joanne

WIBIN 100th birthday (nee Reynolds) widow of Cyril. 100 today with love & gratitude from all her large family.

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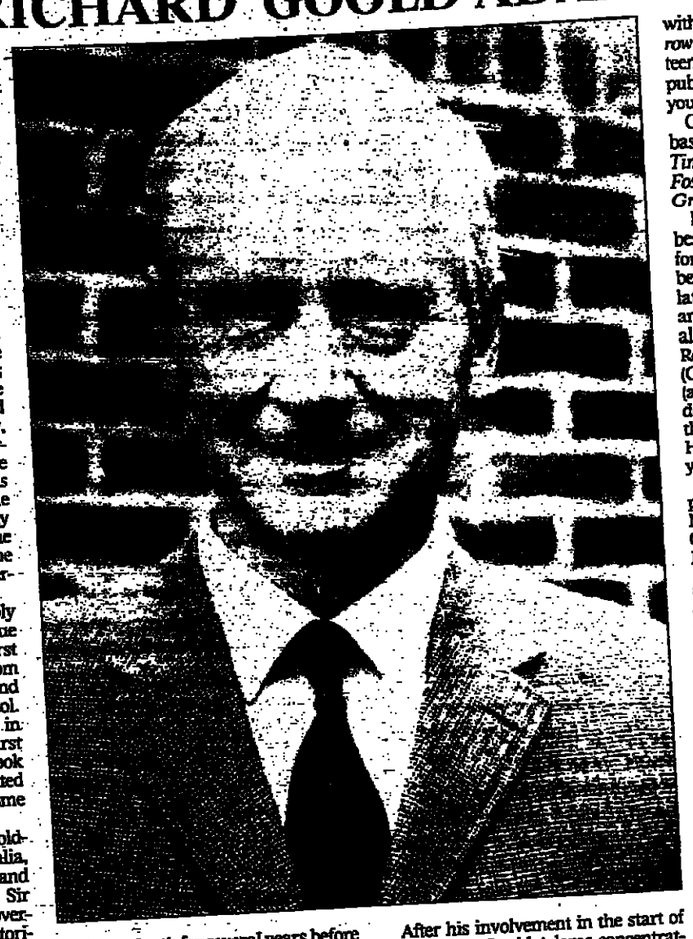
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OBITUARIES

RICHARD GOOLD-ADAMS

Richard Goold-Adams, CBE, writer, broadcaster and founder chairman of the *SS Great Britain* project, died on March 23 aged 79. He was born on January 24, 1916.



RICHARD GOOLD-ADAMS was in at the creation of a number of now familiar British institutions, including Independent Television News (ITN) and the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS).

At ITN in the mid-1950s he was deputy to the first Editor-in-Chief, Aidan Crawley, and was responsible for recruiting the young Robin Day as a newscaster. Shortly afterwards he found himself one of the distinguished quartet (the others were Denis Healey, Professor Patrick Blackett and Rear-Admiral Anthony Buzzard) whose concern over the nuclear weapons problem led to the foundation of the IISS in 1988. Some of the early planning meetings were held in the Goold-Adams drawing room and he himself chaired a preparatory conference at Brighton.

A decade later he was no less deeply involved in another mission: to rescue the *SS Great Britain*, Brunel's first ocean-going iron-built steamship, from its grave in the Falkland Islands, and to berth it in a dry dock in Bristol. Intrigued by a letter in *The Times* in 1967, Goold-Adams became the first chairman of the campaign and took great pride in seeing the vessel floated past cheering crowds to her old home port three years later.

Yet Richard John Moreton Goold-Adams was actually born in Australia, the son of an Anglo-Irish father and Canadian mother. His father, Sir Hamilton Goold-Adams, was Governor of Queensland, an eminent Victorian public servant who had once been deputy to Baden-Powell at Mafeking.

The family left Brisbane when Richard was only four, his father being about to take up a government appointment in South Africa. But Sir Hamilton died from pneumonia *en voyage* and had to be buried at Cape Town when they berthed.

Brought up by his mother in England, the young Goold-Adams went to Winchester and thence to Oxford, to read politics, philosophy and economics at New College. He then worked for the Dawney Day merchant bank for several years before the Second World War.

Commissioned into the Royal Corps of Signals he served throughout the war in the Middle East and Italy, laying cables for communications between the Army and its supporting RAF squadrons.

Demobilised as a major, he turned his back on the City and, after working in publishing for a short while, joined *The Economist* in 1947. He remained there for eight years, specialising in South-East Asia before becoming an assistant editor.

After his involvement in the start of ITN in 1955 Goold-Adams concentrated on writing and broadcasting, frequently appearing as a presenter and commentator on both radio and television.

In 1962 he also joined the board of the Guthrie Estates company which owned rubber plantations in Malaysia. He resigned as deputy chairman amid a boardroom feud after a year but rejoined 12 months later and remained a director throughout the 1960s.

He wrote several books, starting with *South Africa Today and Tomorrow* which he finished while still in his teens and which was accepted by his publishers before they realised the youth of their new author.

Others were *Middle East Journey*, based on his wartime experiences, *The Time of Power: A Reappraisal of John Foster Dulles* and *The Return of the Great Britain* which appeared in 1976.

But Dick Goold-Adams was perhaps best known through his work for foreign affairs organisations. From being a founding father of the IISS he later became chairman of the council and an honorary life member. He was also a member of the council of the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House) where his name (along with others) is carved above a door in recognition of his donation to the refurbishment of the John Power Hall in the institute's diamond jubilee year.

Other bodies in which he played a prominent role included the Society for Nautical Research, the British Atlantic Committee, the Atlantic Institute in Paris and Wilton Park.

A private income allowed him to indulge himself in this way, although many friends considered this to have been a mixed blessing. He might have advanced further in his professional career had he needed to focus more narrowly on one objective.

But if to some extent he lost out, his contemporaries gained. A gentle, urbane, courteous man he was, by general consensus, a first-class chairman, frequently bringing disparate forces together for a common cause. Despite his intellectual inclinations, he could always see the wood through the trees — not all that usual a virtue among his kind. Denis (now Lord) Healey described him in his memoirs as "an equable, level-headed Wykehamist".

The greatest asset he brought to any cause, however, was probably his impressive range of contacts. He had many friends, few enemies and knew everyone. He was appointed CBE in 1974.

Goold-Adams is survived by his wife Dennagh, a gardening writer. They married 56 years ago after meeting at a party and discovering that they had one thing in common: each had inherited an old Irish coastguard station.

HIS HONOUR GILBERT LESLIE

His Honour Gilbert Leslie, retired county court and circuit judge, died on March 24 aged 85. He was born on August 25, 1909.



GILBERT LESLIE was senior judge at Bloomsbury and Marylebone County Courts when he retired in 1981 after 21 years on the bench.

He was a man of great integrity and a fair and able judge. He was also an unashamed traditionalist and set the highest standards both for himself and for the Bar. Many an advocate appearing before him was later admonished for what he considered to be sloppy behaviour, dress, grammar and spelling. He was pedantic about pronunciation, too.

Once when at the Bar he was examining his own client, a woman petitioner in a divorce case, in the witness box, he asked: "Is your name Eunice. . . ?" with emphasis on the "i" and the second "e". "Nay," she replied, "I don't know who she is; that's not me. I'm Unis" (thus pronounced).

Gilbert Frank Leslie was born in Harrogate and educated at St Christopher's School, Letchworth, and at King's College, Cambridge. He was called to the Bar in 1932 and was a pupil to the late C. Paley Scott in chambers in the Temple. He later joined these chambers as a tenant and also the North Eastern Circuit (of which Paley Scott was later to be the leader). Leslie practised in the Temple for seven years until the outbreak of war. As was the lot of most young barristers (there was no legal aid work then), these were lean, often briefless years. It was very difficult to get a practice together and, in common with the vast majority of young barristers, Leslie "devilled" the paperwork of his older and senior colleagues in chambers. As a result he became an expert "pleader". Leslie polished his art over the years and his skilful and succinct pleadings were reputably the best on the North Eastern Circuit and beyond.

In 1939 Leslie enlisted as a private in the Sherwood Foresters. He was later commissioned into the West Yorkshire Regiment and served in this country and northwest Europe, ending the war as a lieutenant-colonel in the Judge Advocate General's Department.

After the war more strong local chambers were being set up in provincial cities and Leslie left the Temple and joined the late John Drabble, (later a judge, and the father of the writers Antonia and Margaret) in chambers in Sheffield. There he built up a large practice, mainly in civil work, but including criminal and divorce matters. However, as he was softly spoken and essentially a shy man, jury advocacy was not his strong point. But his advice in legal matters was widely sought and precision, erudition and care were the hallmarks of his work.

He was appointed Recorder of Pontefract and later of Rotherham and also deputy chairman of the West Riding of Yorkshire Quarter Sessions and the Agricultural Lands Tribunal (Yorkshire Area).

In 1960 Leslie was appointed a county court judge sitting, first, for a short time in Yorkshire and then returning to London and the South East where he sat in various county courts and also in criminal matters at the Old Bailey and the Inner London Crown Court.

He was an enthusiastic gardener and became a liveryman and Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Gardeners. He was a strong believer in public services and a diligent Mason — achieving office in the Grand Lodge of Great Britain. He was fully active in his many interests in his retirement.

He married Dr Mary Braithwaite in 1947 He is survived by her and their three daughters, the eldest being a medical consultant and the other two solicitors.

ALASTAIR ROYALTON-KISCH

Alastair Royalton-Kisch, conductor, died on March 21 aged 75. He was born on January 20, 1920.



ALASTAIR ROYALTON-KISCH laid down his baton for the last time in October 1964. As a result, his name was not well known to a younger generation of concert-goers. But for almost two decades he was a popular conductor on the postwar concert circuit.

He established his reputation with a concert at the Albert Hall in March 1947, when he was only 27. Not only was he one of the youngest conductors to have performed there at that time, but he had the good fortune to be conducting Moura Lympany, who was performing Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto. His reception was such that the following day he was offered a contract with Decca.

Work followed with all the major British orchestras — the London Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and so forth. He was a guest conductor to the Hallé, the Birmingham Symphony and other regional orchestras, and he conducted abroad on numerous occasions.

His repertory spanned the classical and romantic periods from Haydn to Brahms — the latter being his favourite composer — and he tended, in his choice of programmes, to favour the popular classics at the expense, some critics felt, of deserving contemporary composers. But there was no doubt that these went down well with audiences.

Then, at the beginning of the 1960s, he started suffering badly from back problems and was confined to his bed for a year. Afterwards he felt unwilling to return to the rostrum, despite never realising his lifetime's ambition of performing Beethoven's Ninth Symphony.

Alastair Royalton-Kisch — professionally known simply as Royalton Kisch — was born in London, the son of a solicitor. He was educated at Wellington, where he played the clarinet and also started a madrigal society. He went up to Clare College, Cambridge, to read music, fired by the example of Sir Thomas Beecham to become a conductor. He was president of the University Music Society, then under the sway of Boris Orde, and played clarinet in the CUMS orchestra, being only the second undergraduate to conduct that orchestra. It was there that he met his future wife, a cellist, Aline Hylton Stewart.

During the war, he served in the King's Royal Rifle Corps (60th Rifles) mostly in Africa and Italy. He was demobilised in Athens with the rank of captain in 1946, and conducted at the ancient theatre beside the Acropolis under the aegis of the British Council. This was the first concert that many Greeks had heard since the start of hostilities. Back in London, he rose swiftly through the ranks of conductors.

With his retirement in 1964 he attempted to form a record company but found himself squeezed out by the established labels. He turned instead to the visual arts. He dealt in British and French paintings, prints and drawings from the 19th and 20th centuries, and he directed the Cork Street Gallery through the 1970s.

In his retirement he instituted a programme for the treatment of schizophrenics with music therapy. He was a family man, and his circle of close friends was not wide. However, his contemporaries at the Athenaeum, of which he was a member, discovered that he could talk on any topic and with considerable humour. At one function, when an earnest speaker was holding forth on the evils of marijuana, Royalton-Kisch interjected, characteristically, with the observation that all he and most of his fellow members wanted to know was how much the substance cost and where they could purchase some of it.

He is survived by his wife, two daughters and a son.

SIR JAMES HOWIE

Sir James Howie, Director of the English Public Health Laboratory Service, 1963-73, died on March 17 aged 87. He was born on December 31, 1907.



WHEN the hazards of work with dangerous organisms became evident in the 1960s and 1970s, James Howie headed a committee that, in 1978, produced a demanding code of practice for the prevention of infection in clinical laboratories and post-mortem rooms. This became known as the Howie Code and it transformed laboratory work in microbiological centres and in other clinical laboratories throughout the United Kingdom and across the world.

James William Howie was born in Old Meldrum, near Laurencekirk, Aberdeenshire, where his father was an auctioneer. He was educated at Gordon's College, Aberdeen, and thereafter at Aberdeen University medical Schools.

He graduated MBChB at Aberdeen in 1930 and MD in 1937. Very many honours were to follow. He held the fellowships of the Colleges of Physicians of London, Glasgow and Edinburgh and of the College of Pathologists, where he served as president in the 1960s. He was president of the British Medical Association in 1969-70 and BMA gold medallist in 1984. In 1972-73 he was president of the Association of Clinical Pathologists. He was appointed an Honorary Physician to the Queen and was knighted for his outstanding services to medicine in 1969. In the same year, his alma mater honoured him with an honorary LLD.

His career had taken him from Aberdeen to Glasgow, where he obtained essential clinical microbiological experience. He served during the Second World War with the RAMC in Nigeria and then at the War Office in London. He went back to Aberdeen to a senior post at the Rowett Research Institute to gain experience in research methods and he then spent 12 happy years as Professor of Bacteriology at Glasgow.

Although assuredly Scottish, and at times doggedly so, he was not blinkered. He was anxious about the dangers of poor communication between the Scottish medical schools and their associated microbiological laboratories. There was, in his view, a rather haphazard epidemiological intelligence system and, as Scotland lacked (and still lacks) the equivalent of the Public Health Laboratory Service (PHLS) in England, he saw this as a grievous and potentially dangerous deficiency. The development of the Communicable Diseases (Scotland) Unit, known as the CDSU, at Ruchill Hospital, Glasgow, was a great step forward in this context, and Howie had a hand in its creation but he remained concerned that Scotland still does not yet have a truly integrated microbiological laboratory service.

In 1963 he went south to answer the call for his services when the English PHLS sought his leadership. In this role he performed magnificently.

The PHLS, despite its remarkable leadership and industry over the years and its world renown, was soon fighting for its very existence and continued financial support. Paradoxically, the salmonellas, listerias, legionellas, coliform pathogens, campylobacters, staphylococci, streptococci, clostridia and tubercle bacilli, and a host of viruses joined forces with the efforts of Howie and other senior men and women to convince the powers-that-be that a priceless service could not be costed entirely in marketing or accounting terms. Of the PHLS, Howie wrote: "I pray that no misguided-tinkering destroys this beautiful thing through so-called planners. . . not understanding it."

During his time at Glasgow he tackled the deficiencies of hospital sterilisers and, with typical energy, became convener of a Medical Research Council working party to put these important matters right. He also served as president of the Institute of Sterile Supplies.

James Howie had a shy almost self-effacing humility on first acquaintance and a reserve that could be mistaken for severity. But he was a splendid teacher and a daunting chairman with an eagle eye and a stern manner for those who merited a rebuke. Despite the pressures of his professional commitments, he had a lasting and firm commitment to his church and a deep interest and involvement in the wider Church.

In his early retirement his services as a speaker, chairman, assessor and writer were much sought after. In his series of articles entitled *Portraits from Memory*, published in the *British Medical Journal* and subsequently produced as a book, Howie shows all of his skill as a writer, a shrewd observer and a gentle historian.

In 1935 he married Winifred Mitchell. Their homes were always warm and welcoming, for Howie was very much a family man. He was an earnest golfer and was hugely encouraged when, at the age of 77, he got a hole in one at the short 15th at Brunstsfield, Edinburgh, and repeated the feat three months later at the same hole. He is survived by his wife and by his daughter and his two sons.

PERSONAL COLUMN

RENTALS

CHELSEA SW10 Luxe balcony apt. 2 bds, 2 bths. Extra light recep. Lge. Patio. 0171 622 5626.

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MULTI-NATIONAL Corporate Bank wants to rent 2/3 bed flats in the Chelsea area (close to Sloane Square) for a senior executive transferring from Japan. Please call Nicholas, 1/2 bedroom apartments, Knightsbridge area. 0171 221 3534, Fax 0171 589 4760.

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TICKETS FOR SALE

When responding to advertisements readers are advised to establish the facts relating to full details of tickets before [illegible] any [illegible] Most sports [illegible] are subject to strict [illegible] and transfer rules.

TICKETS FOR SALE

TICKETS

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Great Portland Ave.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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LEGAL NOTICES

Case No. 0019417 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF BERMUDA INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT (EUROPE) LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 24th day of March 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £10,000,000 to £9,000,000.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL, on Wednesday the 26th day of April 1995, and any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for his purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 7th day of April 1995
Eversheds Stacey
14 Old Square
Lincoln's Inn
LONDON WC2A 3UB
Solicitors for the above-named Company
Tel: 0171 242 8784
Ref: RJN/JCC

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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action for blind people

Ref.TT, 14-16 Verney Road, London SE16 3DZ. Telephone: 071-732 8771
London Association for the Blind. Registered Charity No.205913

THE TIMES

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

To place your Birth, Marriage or Death Notices over the Easter Holiday period please call during the following times.

Thursday 13th April 9.00am - 12.00 noon
Friday 14th April 9.30am - 2.00pm
Saturday 15th April 9.00am - 12 noon
Monday 16th April 9.30 - 2.00pm

Tel: 0171 782 7272. Fax: 0171 782 7799
Where our staff will be available to take your call.

MEALS AND MENUS
THE NEW RULES FOR THE TABLE

The new Public Meals Order issued by the Food Controller has been much discussed, generally with approval. Exactly how meals will be planned under the order has yet to be decided by most managers and cooks.

On Thursday it was generally assumed that chops and steaks must temporarily disappear from the bill of fare and that such a traditional breakfast as kidneys and bacon is also doomed. But the rationing of public eating places is to be by bulk and not by the individual. If 50 luncheons are served, the caterer can take credit for 250oz of meat; some of the customers may not eat meat, or they make take poultry — of which 10oz counts only as 6oz — and eat less than a 10oz portion. In these cases meat is saved and becomes available for other people. A 7oz steak, therefore, cannot be immediately ruled out.

The meat ration is unlikely to give the caterer much trouble, particularly as the removal of restrictions on the number of meatless dishes will enable a substantial meal to be served without including more than one meat course. Dinner at a good restaurant will probably take such a form as the following:-

Hors d'oeuvre
Soup
Fish
Poultry
Ice
Savoury

The sardine will reappear in the restaurant. Under existing regulations a sardine changes half a course into a full course. Vegetable hors d'oeuvre has given little pleasure to the diner. After April 4 the sardines, the anchovies, shreds of herring and fish mayonnaise will come back to the tray, and if the meat course is reduced in size, the hors d'oeuvre, the soup, and the fish will more than compensate. As for the bread ration, not more than one two-ounce roll or half-inch slice of a two-pound loaf is permitted for each person for each meal. At breakfast, oatmeal porridge can be used as a foundation for the meal.

Afternoon tea must be a strictly rationed meal if the caterer is to be on the right side with his weekly returns. No longer may the visitor living *en pension* eat two slices of bread and butter and a good slice of cake between luncheon and dinner. Two ounces is the maximum permitted. It is not improbable that the difficulty of distributing a ration of half a pound of bread over four meals in the day may lead to the breaking off of the afternoon tea habit. The two ounces saved could then be tacked on to the breakfast allowances.

It is rather surprising to find that the district in London where the Order is least liked is Soho, where the restriction to two courses for luncheon and three for dinner has helped French and Italian proprietors to meet increased prices of provisions. Boarding-house keepers, on the other hand, welcome the new regulations. Many of their boarders, paying a weekly sum for board, have regarded it almost as a duty to consume as much food as possible for the money. Rationing will put a check on their appetites . . .

ON THIS DAY
April 7, 1917

Rationing was not introduced until February 1918 and lasted three years. To judge from this article, meals out appear to have been more appetising than during 1939-45

NEWS

Pension plan for baby boomers

■ Radical proposals to encourage people to save for their old age are being drawn up for the Prime Minister, who is worried about how the country will support the "baby boom" generation when it reaches retirement age in 20 years' time.

One idea being considered is for workers to be given tax relief on their savings if they lock them into an account that could be used only after they retire. Savers could pay in what they liked when they liked and tax relief would be given on the money invested and not just on the interest earned..... **Page 1**

Clemency board refuses killer's plea

■ *British born convicted murderer Nicholas Ingram prepared* to die in Georgia's electric chair last night after a state clemency board refused to commute his sentence to life imprisonment and cleared the way for execution..... **Pages 1, 13**

Doctors' pay row

Virginia Bottomley, the embattled Health Secretary, faced a new headache after leaders of Britain's 26,000 family doctors threatened industrial action over night-visit payments..... **Page 1**

Airlines settle

Virgin Atlantic Airways' British *"dirty tricks"* case against British Airways ended when the two airlines reached an out of court settlement but they continued their row over the terms..... **Page 1**

Patient in annexe

A terminally-ill cancer patient spent nine hours on a trolley in a filthy hospital annexe before she was found a bed. When her husband arrived next morning he found her dead..... **Page 2**

Shotgun killer jailed

A businessman who shot dead his *fiancée's parents in the hope of* claiming their £150,000 estate was jailed for life..... **Page 3**

Need for grammar

Children need to be taught basic grammar if they are to avoid falling behind in reading and spelling, Oxford University research has found..... **Page 5**

Research man freed

A lorry driver who spent his time *in jail studying the brain to prove* he could not have killed his girlfriend's daughter was freed when the Court of Appeal quashed his conviction..... **Page 6**

Police 'soft touch'

Civil actions against the police are increasing because lawyers are cashing in on legal aid fees and forces have become a "soft touch" for quick settlements, a police conference heard... **Page 9**

Test ban

Britain officially ended over 40 *years of nuclear testing by mak*ing a significant concession at the United Nations Conference on *Disarmament*..... **Page 10**

Britain aids Canada

*Britain broke rank with Euro*pean Union states and vetoed a resolution that would have strongly condemned a Canadian attack on two Spanish vessels in international waters..... **Page 11**

Fish warning

Salmon and trout are likely to disappear from some of the *world's finest rivers if global tem*peratures continue rising **Page 12**

Gingrich success

With a thumping victory on the tenth and final Bill in Newt Gingrich's *Contract with America*, Republicans have completed their radical programme for the first 100 days of this Congress a week *ahead of schedule*..... **Page 14**

Rwanda trial delay

The trial of a first group of six Rwandans accused of genocide was postponed when the judge ruled there should be time to prepare the cases..... **Page 15**

Rail smokers win a top referee

■ Lord Harris of High Cross has become the unlikely referee in the battle of the Brighton commuters. He has appointed himself to arbitrate between smokers who have been holding illegal "fug-ins" in the buffet car and non-smokers who report them to the police. Two years ago British Rail banned smoking *on commuter routes* in the South East..... **Page 7**

LOUISA BULLER



Sharron Davies launched National SwimFit Week in London yesterday with a challenge to Britons to swim a mile in aid of charity

BUSINESS

Lloyd's names: More than 3,000 Lloyd's names have won up to £561 *million in compensation for insur*ance losses resulting from a string of catastrophes..... **Page 23**

Tuning in: Richard Branson's Virgin Communications and four other companies have banded together to make the first formally announced bid to run the Channel 5 *television franchise*..... **Page 23**

Fraud conviction: A bogus financial adviser who promised investors returns of up to 20 per cent on their savings has been convicted of fraudulent trading..... **Page 23**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 10.7 to 3,200.0. Sterling's index fell from 84.7 to 84.5 after the pound rose *from $1.6035 to $1.6088 and fell to* DM2.214 from DM2.218... **Page 26**

SPORT

Golf: Ian Woosnam scored a three-under-par 69 to share the early *clubhouse lead with Scott Hoch*, Hale Irwin and David Edwards in the first round of the Masters in Augusta..... **Page 42, 44**

Rugby league: Change is on the way with proposals for a 12-team super league to be set up in Britain by the summer of 1997 for global *television*..... **Page 39**

Rugby union: Mike Hall, the Cardiff centre, will captain Wales in the World Cup. He replaces Ieuan *Evans who is included in a training* squad of 32..... **Page 39**

Football: Luton Town plan to move from their cramped ground at Kenilworth Road to a 20,000-seat in*door stadium on a site near the* M1..... **Page 44**

Chapter and verse: Nine top British poets have been commissioned *to provide a new slant on the Crucifixion.* The provocative results will be televised on BBC1 each night next week..... **Page 34**

Wherefore art thou? Benedict Nightingale finds "some essential *ingredients missing" from Adrian* Noble's new production of *Romeo and Juliet*..... **Page 35**

Kirov stars: At the Wigmore Hall a series of recitals highlighting the brilliant new generation of singers from the Kirov Opera in St Petersburg continues to produce revelations..... **Page 34**

Pop on Friday: Wet Wet Wet's album is stronger on its artwork than *its music but the Tindersticks look* set for fame..... **Page 37**

Natalya Solzhenitsyn: How she handled 20 years in exile and her *family's journey home*..... **Page 16**

Japan's war: Two books throw light on the sexual slavery of women at the hands of Japanese *troops and the indoctrination of the* nation..... **Page 16**

Malcolm Bradbury: Valerie Grove visits the man who invented a generation of novelists..... **Page 17**

List on a wrist: Timex has introduced its Data Link watch which *acts as a phone book, diary and* memo pad..... **Page 31**

Homework hotline: A school has devised a system whereby parents *can ring in to check what their* children have been set..... **Page 33**



IN THE TIMES

■ **CD BARGAIN**
Voucher for £3 off a WH Smith CD in *The Times* on Saturday

■ **REVIEWS**
Libby Purves on *Special Relationship*, a novel tale of a Rhodes scholar, his English affair and his secret son

A heavy price is being paid for the *something-must-be-done diploma*cy that passed for strategic thinking in the early 1990s. European Union countries led the campaign to set up a Kurdish safe haven, without considering who would take responsibility for the region
— The European

Muslim leaders in the bloodied Philippine town of Ipil joined with the city's Catholic majority in denouncing religious extremism. The *world is not dividing into a new* Cold War of Islam against the West. The war is *within* Islam
— Wall Street Journal

Preview: The Paul Minet-Brian Leveson sit-com *Time After Time* (ITV, 8.30pm), *starring Brian Conley as a reformed criminal try*ing to go straight, depicts a cheerfully vulgar section of London life. **Review:** Lynne Truss felt a pang of sympathy for the villainous *reynard filmed in Wildlife on One* for being constantly outnumbered and outfoxed by cute, defenceless rabbits..... **Page 43**

Electrothanasia

Once a symbol of the State's humanitarian approach to execution, the electric chair has become just the opposite: the nearest thing the modern West has to the medieval stake..... **Page 19**

Turkey and the West

The West's principal objective must be to persuade the Turkish Government not merely to withdraw from Iraq, but to open a dialogue with the moderate majority of Turkey's Kurds..... **Page 19**

Dial L for languages

For anyone who has rung a British switchboard and dared to say *"Parlez-vous Français?" the experi*ence can be dispiriting..... **Page 19**

BERNARD LEVIN

Why should we try to redeem people who spit in the eye of redemption? Because even one saved *from the burning is a triumph of* goodness over evil..... **Page 18**

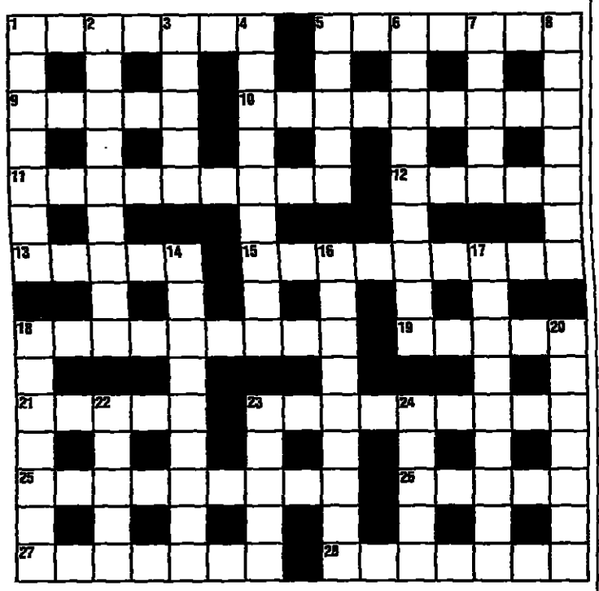
JONATHAN EYAL

The West and Russia are not talking to each other, but past each other. The *partnership launched* after the collapse of the Soviet Union has reached a dead end; from now on, confrontation rather *than collaboration* will dominate Russia's relations with the West..... **Page 18**

Richard Goold-Adams, writer and broadcaster; **Sir James Howie**, former Director of the English Public Health Laboratory; **His Honour Gilbert Leslie**, retired county court and circuit judge; **Alastair Royalton-Kisch**, orchestral conductor..... **Page 21**

Reorganisation of London hospitals; tourists in search of sex with children; global warming. **Page 19**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,823



ACROSS

1 Mother's loose flowing gown familiar in the nursery (7)
5 Difficult height for a car roof (7)
9 *Its coins were made of genuine* metal originally (5)
10 Mark made by retired soldiers with character (9)
11 Sailor dispatched round the globe is taking in water (9)
12 Inspire single doctor to take university exam first (5)
13 Lived in dirty back street at the end (5)
15 Point in preamble to order can be gone through (9)
18 Fringes from old-fashioned garments (9)
19 Reared one in an outhouse (5)
21 Claw, not a long one, concealed *here* (5)
23 Bracelets to present in boxes (9)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,822

C	H	O	P	C	H	O	P	■	A	■	A	■	I	■
■	E	■	E	■	A	■	U	N	R	E	A	S	O	N
P	A	I	R	■	R	■	N	■	M	■	■	T	■	T
■	R	■	F	R	E	N	C	H	P	O	L	I	S	H
■	H	■	E	■	B	■	H	■	I	■	O	■	E	■
R	E	S	C	U	E	■	U	N	T	A	N	G	L	E
■	A	■	T	■	L	■	P	■	■	G	■	N	■	■
T	R	I	P	O	L	I	■	M	I	S	D	E	E	D
O	■	I	■	■	D	■	N	■	I	■	R	■	■	■
A	G	I	T	A	T	O	R	■	S	A	V	A	G	E
D	■	C	■	E	■	A	■	P	■	I	■	Q	■	■
F	I	S	H	A	N	D	C	H	I	P	S	■	T	■
L	■	E	■	N	■	H	■	R	■	I	S	I	S	■
A	L	T	R	U	I	S	M	■	I	■	O	■	S	■
X	■	T	■	S	■	A	N	T	O	N	Y	M	S	■

25 *Very small piece required for the* funeral reports (6-3)
26 Periodical that's about reproduction (5)
27 One runs into trouble from failure to take advantage of a right (3-4)
28 Gold, for example, can produce a warm glow (7)

DOWN

1 It's hard to retain a French department in a US university (7)
2 Most pretentious golf clubs have a tradesmen's entrance (9)
3 A pointer to love in France (5)
4 Whitewash causing complaint (9)
5 *Once named in the summit talks* (5)
6 After collision, near side's in need of preparation (9)
7 Attempt to summon a lift (5)
8 Lead the way, and return after parking (7)
14 Accept comments in report (4,5)
16 An old hack getting drunk on retsina (9)
17 Paper carrier bag (9)
18 Chap propping up sort of cycle with a padded seat (7)
20 Sweet soprano's debut in maroon (7)
22 *Pupil, rising nine, for Ulyanov* (5)
23 Ugly old woman, a redhead, mother to Ishmael (5)
24 Kite over Oriental country (5)

Times Two Crossword, page 44

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
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Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereids & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

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National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Wednesday: Highest day temp: Lowestoft, Suffolk, 17C (63F); lowest day max: St Bees Head and Scadeadam, Cumbria, 8C (46F); highest rainfall: Glasgow airport, 0.64in; highest sunshine: Folkestone, Kent, 8.5hr

☐ *England and Wales will start rather* cloudy; misty in the south, and a little patchy drizzle in the north. Skies will gradually brighten with all areas having some sunshine in the afternoon. Cooler and fresher than yesterday.

Northern Ireland and southern *Scotland will start cloudy with drizzle* in places and slowly brighten with a little sunshine by afternoon. Northern Scotland will have a windy start and continue to have a lot of cloud. *Outbreaks of rain will turn to sleety* showers and sunny intervals but it will be dry later. Cold in the north.

☐ **London, SE, Central S, SW England, Midlands, Channel Isles, S Wales:** dry, early mist then brightening with some sunshine later. Wind northwest moderate. Feeling *fresher*. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **E Anglia, E, Central N, NW England, N Wales, Lakes:** early mist or drizzle in places. Sunny spells for a *time. Cloudy evening.* Wind northwest fresh. Feeling cooler. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **IoM, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland:** a little drizzle at first. Becoming dry *with some sunshine. Wind northwest* moderate or fresh. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen:** rather cloudy. Occasional showery rain. *Wind northwest fresh. Feeling cool.* Max 13C (55F).

☐ **Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney:** early rain clearing to sunny intervals and showers. Wind northwest *strong becoming fresh.* Chilly. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Shetland:** rain clearing to sleety showers and sunny intervals. Wind west gale decreasing northwest strong. Cold. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **Outlook for weekend:** mostly dry with some sunshine; rain in the far north later. Some night frost.

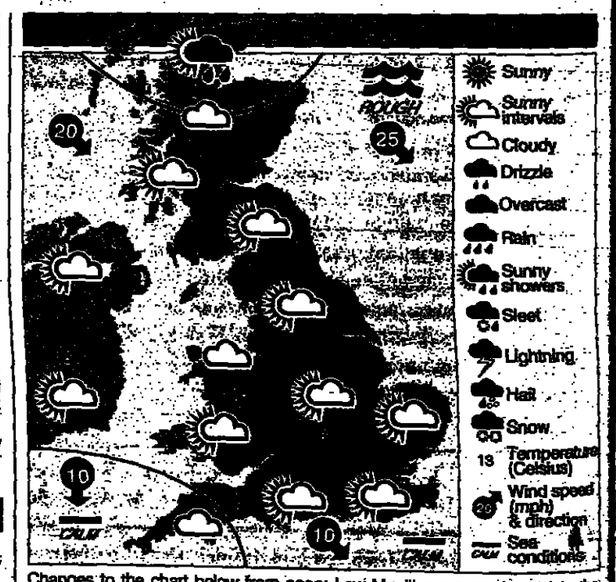
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	1.3	0.02	16	69	r	Liverpool	2.2	-	13	55	c
Anglesey	0.7	-	10	50	du	London	5.2	-	15	59	b
Aspatria	-	0.14	9	48	r	Lowestoft	4.3	-	17	63	b
Aviemore	2.4	0.02	13	55	r	Manchester	2.2	-	13	55	c
Belfast	-	0.03	12	54	c	Margate	4.9	-	16	61	b
Birmingham	3.3	-	15	59	c	Milford Haven	X				
Bognor R	X					Morecambe	0.3	-	11	52	du
Boumem'th	2.0	-	13	55	c	Newcastle	X				
Bristol	X					Newquay	0.4	-	11	52	c
Buxton	4.2	-	11	52	b	Norwich	2.4	-	16	61	c
Cardiff	2.1	-	11	52	c	Nottingham	X				
Clacton	1.2	-	15	59	c	Oxford	5.8	-	14	57	b
Cleethorpes	4.0	-	14	57	c	Penzance	-	-	12	54	c
Colwyn Bay	3.5	-	13	55	b	Plymouth	3.3	-	12	54	b
Cromer	4.0	-	15	59	b	Poole	2.8	-	15	59	b
Doncaster	1.9	-	14	57	c	Prestatyn	X	-	13	55	b
Dunbar	X					Ross-o-wye	3.4	-	13	55	b
Eastbourne	5.1	-	13	55	b	Scarborough	3.7	-	13	55	c
Edinburgh	0.1	0.04	12	54	r	Sandown	7.7	-	13	55	s
Eskdalemuir	-	0.43	8	46	r	Sandtn Snd	3.4	-	11	52	du
Exmouth	1.2	-	13	55	c	Scarboro'	3.3	-	13	55	c
Falmouth	X	-	12	54	b	Scilly Isles	-	-	12	54	c
Fishguard	0.9	-	10	50	c	Shanklin	7.0	-	12	54	b
Folkestone	8.5	-	15	59	s	Shrewsbury	X				
Glasgow	-	0.64	11	52	d	Skegness	3.5	-	14	57	b
Guernsey	1.5	-	15	59	c	Southend	X				
Hastings	3.3	-	14	57	c	Southport	X				
Hayling I	6.7	-	13	55	s	Southsea	8.2	-	13	55	b
Herne Bay	4.9	-	15	59	b	Stornoway	2.8	0.01	11	52	d
Hove	6.7	-	13	55	s	Swanage	2.9	-	13	55	c
Hunstanton	2.9	-	13	56	b	Teignmouth	1.9	-	14	57	c
Ilfracombe	X					Tenby	X				
Isle of Man	0.1	0.05	10	50	c	Tiree	-	0.44	10	50	fg
Jersey	0.7	-	13	55	c	Torquay	1.5	-	14	57	c
Kinloss	2.8	-	15	59	c	Tynemouth	X				
Leeds	2.1	-	14	57	c	Ventnor	7.6	-	12	54	b
Lerwick	0.3	0.20	8	46	sh	Weymouth	3.2	-	13	55	c
Littlehmptn	6.0	-	14	57	b	These are Wednesday's figures					

Ajaccio	16	61	s	C'phagn	7	45	c	Madrid	21	70	s
Akrotiri	19	66	s	Corfu	18	64	s	Majorca	20	68	s
Alex'dria	20	68	s	Dublin	15	59	r	Malaga	22	66	s
Algiers	19	66	s	Dubrovnik	14	57	f	Malta	17	63	f
Amst'dm	11	52	c	Faro	22	72	s	Melb'rne	13	55	s
Athens	18	64	s	Florence	18	64	s	Mexico C	23	73	s
Bahrain	20	68	c	Frankfurt	13	55	c	Miami	28	82	f
Bangkok	35	95	s	Funchal	20	68	s	Milan	20	68	s
Barbados	30	86	f	Geneva	18	64	s	Montreal	-7	19	s
Barcelona	15	59	c	Gibraltar	19	66	s	Moscow	2	36	f
Beirut	19	66	s	Helsinki	3	37	f	Munich	14	57	f
Belgrade	20	68	s	Hong K	21	70	f	Nairobi	28	79	c
Berlin	12	54	c	Innsbruck	12	54	r	Naples	19	66	s
Bermuda	-	--		Istanbul	17	63	s	N Delhi	30	86	s
Biarritz	13	55	c	Jeddah	33	91	s	N York	2	36	s
Borde'x	16	61	c	Jo'burg	-	--		Nice	15	59	c
Brussels	11	52	c	Karachi	10	50	s	Oslo	7	45	s
Budapst	18	64	f	L Palmas	21	70	s	Paris	13	55	c
B Aires	-	--		La Tquet	13	55	f	Peking	19	66	s
Cairo	24	75	s	Lisbon	24	75	s	Perth	28	82	s
Cape Tn	27	81	s	Locarno	21	70	f	Prague	12	54	c
Chicago	4	39	f	L Angels	17	63	f	Reykjavik	1	34	sn
Ch'church	-	--		Luxembg	8	48	c	Rhodes	21	70	s
Cologne	11	52	c	Luxor	29	84	s	Rio de J	23	73	f

Riyadh	17	63	f	Tangier	23	73	s	Vienna	17	63	f
Rome	14	57	s	Tel Aviv	24	75	s	Warsaw	11	52	f
S Frisco	13	55	f	Tenerife	22	72	s	Wash'ton	6	43	s
Santiago	27	81	s	Tokyo	18	64	s	Zurich	16	59	f
S Paulo	-	--		Toronto	-3	27	c				
Seoul	8	46	c	Tunis	19	66	f				
Singapor	30	86	f	Valencia	18	66	s				
Stkhlm	3	37	sl	Vanc'ver	9	48	f				
Strasb'rg	17	63	f	Venice	14	57	s				

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to the chart below from noon: Low M will move southeast into the Continent and slowly fill. High H is expected to drift eastwards towards the British Isles. Low S will move north into Greenland and steadily fill



TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	5:47	6.16	6.06	5.14	Leith	6:47	4.49	7.23	4.54
Aberdeen	5:35	3.51	8.09	3.38	Liverpool	3:01	7.73	3:33	7.65
Avonmouth	10:57	10.39	11:12	10.97	Lowestoft	1:48	2.19	1:55	2.51
Belfast	3:21	3.24	3:52	2.95	Margate	3:42	4.11	4:01	4.08
Cardiff	10:57	9.91	11:04	9.99	Milford Haven	10:19	5.93	10:38	6.56
Devonport	9:39	4.43	10:01	4.80	Newquay	9:21	6.08	9:51	6.65
Dover	2:46	5.62	3:04	5.45	Oban	9:42	2.94	9:53	3.04
Dublin	3:57	3.44	4:35	3.28	Penzance	8:51	4.34	9:16	4.39
Falmouth	9:14	3.91	9:48	4.09	Portland	10:12	1.35	10:22	1.45
Glasgow	5:04	4.23	8:26	5.15	Portsmouth	3:09	4.07	3:44	3.95
Harwich	3:39	3.44	3:52	3.34	Shoreham	2:44	5.14	3:17	4.97
Holyhead	2:19	4.62	2:37	4.35	Southampton	2:43	3.93	3:19	3.82
Hull	10:11	8.17	10:47	8.79	Swansea	10:20	7.49	10:45	7.36
Ilfracombe	9:58	7.03	10:12	6.96	Tees	8:00	4.58	8:32	4.22
King's Lynn	10:26	6.09	10:55	4.85	Wilton-on-Nbia	3:34	3.83	3:52	3.89

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Sun rises: 6.24 am
Sun sets: 7.43 pm
Moon sets: 1.58 am
Moon rises: 10.55 am

London 7.43 pm to 6.22 am
Bristol 8.53 pm to 6.31 am
Edinburgh 8.02 pm to 6.27 am
Manchester 7.54 pm to 6.27 am
Penzance 8.03 pm to 6.45 am

First quarter tomorrow

©TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED 1995. Published and printed by Times Newspapers Ltd at 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN, telephone 071-782 5000 and at Knowsley Road Industrial Estate, Kirkby Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 9HY, telephone 0151-545 2000. Friday, April 7, 1995. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

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Go interactive and zap in a funnier comedian



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Speedway gives Clement Freud food for thought

THE TIMES

FRIDAY APRIL 7 1995

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

Output figures fuel hopes of healthy growth

'Reports of the death of recovery greatly exaggerated'

By Ross Tieman
Industrial Correspondent

EXPECTATIONS that Britain's economy is on course for healthy growth after a bout of de-stocking were rekindled yesterday by official figures showing a 0.5 per cent rise in manufacturing output between January and February.

Although there was no overall increase in manufacturing output in the latest three months, compared with the previous three, there was strong evidence that some sectors are still recording lively expansion.

Exporters are set to benefit from the strength of the yen and the mark, which is hampering many of Britain's strongest industrial competitors in world markets. Central banks have apparently paused in their efforts to stem the fall of the US dollar, after spending $4 billion to $5 billion this week to little effect.

The chemicals industry, one of Britain's strongest, continued to lead economic growth. Its output rose by 1.1 per cent in the three months to February, while electrical and optical equipment output rose by 0.9 per cent, according to the Central Statistical Office. Consumer goods production rose by 0.7 per cent, manufacture of clothing and footwear rose by 2.5 per cent and car output was up by 1.9 per cent.

Many economists believe that the official figures are understating growth and may be heavily revised later. Quarterly and monthly surveys from the Confederation of British Industry suggest that companies are experiencing strong growth, and expect to increase output further.

Keith Skeoch, of James Capel, the broker, said: "The weakness of manufacturing output in recent months is difficult to square with the very bullish CBI survey results — our interpretation would be that this reflects a bout of destocking."

Ian Shepherdson, of HSBC Greenwell, said that the CBI data suggested that output should be growing by 5 to 6 per cent a year. Noting that recent sterling weakness should help British exporters, he said: "Reports of the death of the manufacturing recovery have been greatly exaggerated. The true trend is still up."

Further evidence of strong manufacturing growth came in figures issued yesterday by the Society of Motor Manufacturer and Traders, showing commercial vehicle registrations up by 15.4 per cent in March. Although weaker demand from private buyers brought a 1.8 per cent fall in new car registrations, company buying of new cars rose by 3.2 per cent, year on year. Ernie Thompson, SMMT chief executive, said: "Companies continue to invest in new vehicles as the economy grows." It was among consumers, he said, that confidence remained fragile.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that, in spite of consumer doubts, economic recovery is now spreading to the service sector. Jim Parks, sales director of LDV the vanmaker, said that demand for vehicles was rising from small traders, "many of whom are now gearing up their businesses for a period of steady growth". Larger companies were at last replacing older vehicles.

Jaguar yesterday announced sales at a five-year high, with a first-quarter gain of a third, including a 24 per cent rise in North America.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3200.9	(+10.7)
Yield	4.28%	
FT-SE A All share	1566.05	(+5.27)
Nikkei	15815.87	(–66.62)
New York:		
Dow Jones	4204.03	(+3.46)*
S&P Composite	505.30	(–0.27)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5¹⁄₁₆%*	(5⁷⁄₈%)
Long Bond	103²⁄₃₂*	(103)
Yield	7.37%*	(7.37%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6⁹⁄₁₆%	(6⁵⁄₈%)
Life long gilt future (Jun)	103¹₂	(103¹⁄₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6065*	(1.6065)
London:		
$	1.6061	(1.6179)
DM	2.2099	(2.2180)
FFr	7.6970	(7.7760)
SFr	1.8109	(1.8168)
Yen	137.24	(139.53)
£ Index	84.5	(84.7)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.3758*	(1.3731)
FFr	4.7913*	(4.7980)
SFr	1.1277*	(1.1230)
Yen	85.45*	(86.13)
$ Index	88.6	(89.2)

Tokyo close Yen 86.35

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jun) $17.60 ($17.65)

GOLD

London close $394.05 ($392.25)

* denotes midday trading price

Names win £561m award for losses

By Sarah Bagnall, Insurance Correspondent

MORE than 3,000 Lloyd's names yesterday won up to £561 million in compensation for insurance losses resulting from a run of catastrophes such as the Exxon Valdez oil spill and the Piper Alpha rig disaster.

The record award — payable in instalments — was made to the 3,096 litigating names on the loss-making Gooda Walker syndicates. It follows a ruling last October that names were entitled to compensation because of the negligence of underwriters on four syndicates.

The size of the award, which is an estimate by the Gooda Walker Action Group, far outstrips the £220 million offer made to the names as part of the attempt by Lloyd's of London to end the mass of legal actions in 1993. However, the defendants' insurers argue that the amount of insurance cover available to meet the claims is less than £220 million.

The ruling also provides the names, who include Sir Freddie Laker, the former airline magnate, Paul Marland, the Conservative MP, and Sir Antony Pilkington, the industrialist, with an indemnity against future losses.

Michael Deeny, chairman of the Gooda Walker Action Group, said: "The horrific deterioration seen earlier this week of the losses suffered by names on the Outhwaite syndicates demonstrates the enormous value of the indemnity we have received."

The ruling by Mr Justice Phillips sets an important precedent for the dozens of other Lloyd's cases due in court over the next few years.

In a highly unusual step, the judge ruled that assessment of part of the total damages payable to the Gooda Walker names should be deferred.

He said: "The special features of the Lloyd's litigation weigh strongly in favour of awarding damages in respect of underwriting losses when those losses are sustained and not in anticipation of them."

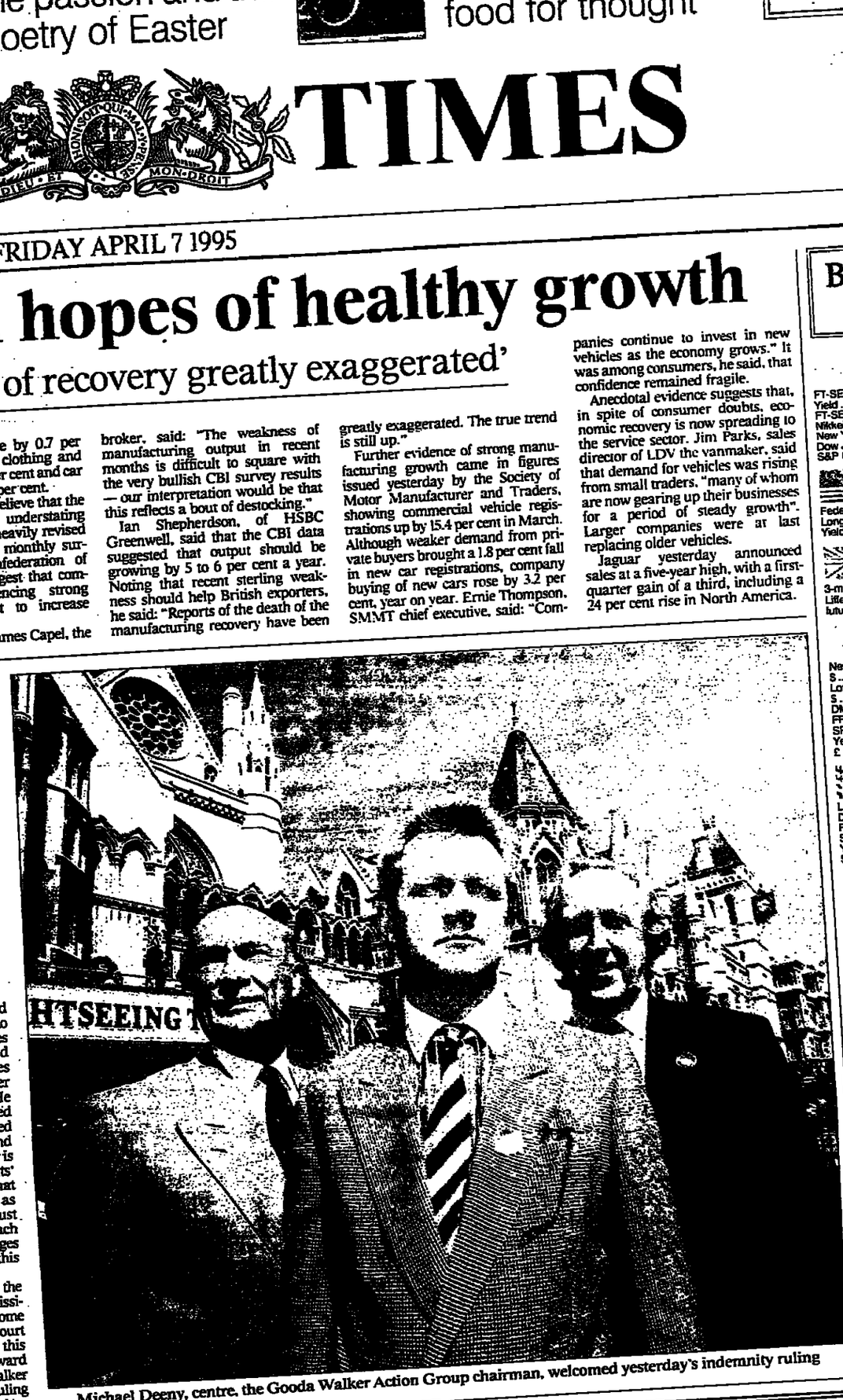
He has split damages between losses that have been paid and losses expected to be paid in the future. Gooda Walker names will receive an estimated £354 million now, with an estimated £66 million to £182 million payable over the next five years or so. The £354 million is broken down between £267 million to cover losses that have been paid by the syndicates to date plus an estimated £87 million of interest on the losses.

Mr Justice Phillips said that the decision to defer damages relating to losses yet to be paid in part reflected the uncertainty over the size of the eventual losses. However, he said that a more compelling consideration was the implications of awarding lump sum damages for losses yet to be incurred by names. He questioned whether it was just that the defendants or their insurers should be made to make payments to cover losses that the names have not yet suffered and whether it was just that names receive payment to cover losses not yet suffered. He drew attention to the added problem that only a limited amount of errors and ommissions insurance cover is available to meet litigants' claims. Many names fear that big legal actions such as Gooda Walker will exhaust the cover before they reach court. Splitting the damages award helps to ease this problem.

The issue of whether the limited funds should be dissipated on the basis of first come first served is due in the Court of Appeal at the end of this month. As a result, the award yesterday to the Gooda Walker names is stayed until a ruling has been made. Philip Rocher, a partner in Wilde Sapte, solicitors to the names, said: "We now have a good prospect of receiving substantial payments by the end of June."

An estimated £115 million has already been paid into an escrow account since the £210 million interim award made by Mr Justice Phillips earlier this year. The funds will be handed over to Lloyd's names once the Court of Appeal has ruled on the basis of distributing the limited insurance funds.

Letters, page 27



Michael Deeny, centre, the Gooda Walker Action Group chairman, welcomed yesterday's indemnity ruling

Aid questions

The quality of England's regional aid has been questioned after a Cross-Party Committee of MPs called on the Government to appoint a minister to co-ordinate aid and economic development in each of the ten regions.
Page 24

Direct Line row

Direct Line, the insurer that revolutionised the motor insurance market by cutting rates, has been reported to the Advertising Standards Authority for claiming to be the "Best for Price" in its latest poster campaign.
Page 25

Audit of Barings controls had been planned by Bank

By Patricia Tehan, Banking Correspondent

THE Bank of England had planned to ask Barings' accountants, Coopers & Lybrand, to conduct an audit of the merchant bank's systems and controls this year.

Barings collapsed in February due to a failure of management controls, which allowed the activities of Nick Leeson to go unchecked.

Brian Quinn, head of banking supervision at the Bank, told MPs this week that as the "consolidated supervisor" of Barings, the Bank had to rely on authorities in other countries to carry out supervision in other parts of the world.

However, under Section 39 of the 1987 Banking Act, the Bank has the power to commission reports on specific areas of the business or accounting policies of the banks it regulates. These might include reports on areas where it has concerns, such as over provisioning policies, loan book quality, or systems and controls. It had planned to ask for a report on Barings' global systems and controls this year.

Documents given to MPs by Brian Sedgemore, Labour MP for Hackney North and Shoreditch, include an internal Barings report dated August last year, which gave warning that there was significant risk that controls could be overridden by Mr Leeson.

Mr Sedgemore said that Peter Norris, head of investment banking, and the man with board responsibility for Mr Leeson's trading activities in Singapore, was at the top of the list of recipients. Others included Geoffrey Barnett, Geoffrey Broadhurst, Andrew Fraser, Tony Gamby, global head of settlements, Ian Hopkins, Sajeed Sacranie, Nick Farley, and Ash Lewis, head of internal audit.

City Diary, page 27

Adviser guilty of fraud

By Jon Ashworth

A BOGUS financial adviser who promised investors returns of up to 20 per cent on his has been convicted of fraudulent trading at Southwark Crown Court after a six-week trial.

Yar Ahmed Khan, former general manager of General Credit Finance (UK), a London investment firm, was also convicted of four charges of reckless inducement to make a deposit contrary to the Banking Act (1987). He faces a maximum seven years in prison and was remanded in custody until sentencing on April 27.

Investors, mainly from Britain's Asian community, are thought to have lost at least £700,000 when the firm failed. General Credit, trading from an address on the City Road, London, attracted sums between £1,000 and £150,000 by promising returns of 14-20 per cent. Investors were told the money would be invested in a scheme registered in the Cayman Islands. In reality, it was placed in UK bank accounts and used to pay office expenses. Investors were paid out on request, creating the impression that all was well. General Credit's former managing director, Shabeeh-ul-Hasan is believed to be in Pakistan.

About 30 investors are thought to have invested a total of £1.5 million. Some were reimbursed in full before Khan's arrest. The firm was unregulated and falls outside the scope of the Investors' Compensation Scheme.

Pennington, page 25

Virgin consortium bids for Channel 5

By Martin Waller

RICHARD BRANSON'S Virgin Communications and four other companies have banded together to make the first formally announced bid to run the Channel 5 television franchise, to be awarded later this year.

The other parties are Philips Electronics, the Dutch maker of video recorders and other consumer goods, HTV, the West Country and Wales ITV broadcaster, City investment trust Electra and Associated Newspapers, publisher of the *Daily Mail*.

Other consortiums are known to be limbering up to make a bid ahead of the May 2 deadline. They include a number of media operators such as Pearson, owner of the *Financial Times* as well as a burgeoning TV business, which is allied with MAI, Lord Hollick's money-broking business, and CLT, the Radio Luxembourg broadcaster.

Another independent TV contractor, Yorkshire Tyne-Tees TV, will decide at a board meeting today whether to enter the Channel 5 race and which of the possible runners it wishes to join. The Independent Television Commission will make its decision on who runs the channel by the autumn.

Robert Devereux, chairman of Virgin Communications and also chairing the as-yet-unnamed consortium, said the parties were chosen for their various abilities.

Shareholdings had yet to be assigned, he added. "We're likely to bring one more party in. Until we've finalised that, it's premature to be that specific about the shareholdings."

However, it is expected that Electra's stake will be the smallest, and the other parties will share equal status. The consortium is in total expected to invest more than £200 million in Channel 5 if it is successful.

Mr Devereux said Philips had been brought in for its record of "credibility and reliability in managing technology". Electra, which has a track record in media investments, would act as "the voice of caution and reason".

Virgin, he said, had been brought in for its "media start-up skills" and to provide marketing expertise. The group's TV business makes a variety of programmes, including the much-derided *Eurotrash* and *Passengers*, a music programme.

The successful bidder for the new channel faces two daunting tasks in setting up operations. An unknown proportion of video recorders across the country will have to be retuned to prevent the new service from interfering with their operations. In addition, the channel can at present reach only two-thirds of British households.

Pennington, page 25

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Piecemeal sale for Swan yard

Remaining assets of Swan Hunter, the Tyneside shipbuilder, are to be auctioned piecemeal in June after receivers failed to find a sole buyer for the company's Wallsend yard.

Ed James, a receiver from Price Waterhouse, said that although there had been some interest in the yard since its closure in November, no acceptable offer had arisen.

"The continuing substantial cost of maintaining the yard means that arrangements for a piecemeal sale cannot be further delayed," he said.

A sale is expected to last three days and to include machinery and computer equipment. Swan's three other sites along the Tyne have been sold individually.

Off to Halifax

Seven of the nine directors on the Leeds Permanent Building Society board will join the Halifax board when the societies merge later this year. Malcolm Barr, Leeds chairman, and Geoffrey Armitage will retire. The Halifax board will number 20 after the merger, up from 15 now.

Publisher up

Shares in Harrington Kilbride jumped 19p, to 38p, after the troubled magazine publisher's appointment of a new chief executive, Ian Fletcher, who built up the Yellow Advertiser Newspaper Group and who is to inject £250,000.

Eclipse profit

Eclipse Blinds moved £4.4 million into profit in 1994 after losing £20.6 million in 1993 through £22 million exceptional costs. During 1994, Eclipse pulled out of making window blinds. It now concentrates on blinds distribution and timber products. Again there is no dividend.

Greenbank profits from overseas sales



Looking abroad: Martin Hynes, Walker Greenbank's finance director, left, with Charles Whiteman

By Susan Gilchrist

A SURGE in overseas sales helped lift profits at Walker Greenbank, the wallcovering and fabric group, by 27 per cent last year.

Pre-tax profits jumped to £9 million from £7.1 million in the year to January 31 on the back of a 21 per cent rise in sales to £75 million, up from £62 million in the previous period.

Overseas sales rose by 36 per cent and now account for almost a third of group turnover, compared with just 5 per cent five years ago. Charles Wightman, chief executive, said the group was aiming to generate half its sales from overseas markets within the next three years.

Mr Wightman said the group had experienced raw material price increases of up to 40 per cent, but had been able to pass these on to customers. The group expects to spend about £25 million over the next two years to boost production capacity and lower manufacturing costs.

A final dividend of 2.3p (2.1p) brings the total payout to 3.6p (3.3p). Shareholders will be paid on July 4.

Tempus, page 26

MPs attack quality of England's regional aid

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

A CROSS-PARTY committee of MPs is calling on the Government to appoint a minister to co-ordinate aid and economic development in each of the ten English regions.

Better political accountability is urgently needed to improve the effectiveness of more than £1.3 billion a year of regional aid, according to a report from the Trade and Industry Select Committee. The committee called for regional aid to be refocused, to provide more assistance to indigenous firms.

Although the use of aid to attract inward investment had been a success, the committee said funds should be available to aid industrial restructuring and development of new technologies and products.

Richard Caborn, the Labour committee chairman, said: "A wider cost-benefit approach centred on improving the competitiveness of the assisted areas and the firms within them, we believe, would be much more effective."

In an exceptionally hard-hitting report, the committee urged the Government to hold a review of regional aid policy as part of the Trade and Industry Department's second review of Britain's industrial competitiveness.

DTI regional aid has shrunk to less than £300 million a year, while European funds have grown to £1 billion and Environment Department aid for urban regeneration had increased in importance, the committee said. Improved co-ordination should be a priority.

At present, the committee said, administration of funds was poorly co-ordinated and bureaucratic. There were few objective criteria to ensure money was being spent effectively.

Among a list of 38 recommendations, the committee called on the DTI to "accept responsibility for improving standards of evaluation, that it lay down minimum requirements and common standards for evaluation, and that it withdraw funding from organisations which do not meet those requirements or cannot demonstrate their effectiveness".

The aim, the committee said, should be to allocate funds to ensure the maximum impact upon "the competitiveness of firms and regions". The government should place this goal "at the heart of regional policy".

It said the delivery of aid to regions in England was significantly poorer than in Scotland and Wales, where organisations such as Scottish Enterprise and the Welsh Development Agency had scored considerable success. Appointing a minister for each region would "remedy the democratic deficit" and ensure proper supervision of the ten new integrated regional offices.

"The present system is poorly resourced and badly organised," Mr Caborn said. "I am particularly concered about the lack of political accountability and the gap between the rhetoric of local partnership and the reality on the ground."

Hope of 900 textile jobs for Ulster

By Nicholas Watt
Ireland Correspondent

AN INDONESIAN textile group announced yesterday that it hoped to create 900 jobs in Northern Ireland by 1997 in an £80 million expansion as business confidence grows in the Province.

The announcement came as Northern Ireland's leading ship-outfitting company pledged to double in size in a £4 million expansion. Mivan Marine will take on 120 workers at its factory in Antrim and a further 120 overseas.

Norfil, a subsidiary of the Texmaco-Polysindo Group of Indonesia which is also based in Antrim, will set up two plants by 1997. The first plant, which will produce polyester filament yarn, will employ 500 people by early 1997.

The company has installed £30 million of equipment at the plant over the past 18 months. But the project, which was announced three years ago, was delayed by the recession and overcapacity in the world textile industry.

Pan European Textiles will aim to create 400 jobs by 1997 with backing from the Industrial Development Board.

Pennington, page 25

BUSINESS ROUND

First payout rise in 7 years at Brammer

BRAMMER, the bearings distributor, is raising its dividend for the first time since 1988. Recovery in the UK and increased activity in France helped Brammer to increase sales, margins and cash flow last year, and the company is increasing the dividend by 0.25p to 13.25p for the year.

BSL, Brammer's core UK business of distributing bearings and power transmissions, lifted its market share while its French counterpart, Roulement Service, raised sales 22 per cent. Overall, pre-tax profits rose 70 per cent to £14.1 million, and Brammer is taking the opportunity to spread its distribution net into Spain by buying a 25 per cent stake in Rodamientos USA for £3.1 million in cash. Tempus, page 26

Wardle pegs payout

WARDLE STOREYS, the maker of parachutes and inflatables, is holding its interim dividend at 5p, reflecting difficult trading for its technical products division, where repeated increases in raw material costs have only partly been passed on to customers. In the six months to February 28, pre-tax profits rose to £3.4 million, from £3.1 million, lifting earnings per share to 9.1p, from 8.3p. Profits from technical products fell to £928,000, from £1.09 million, but the safety and survival equipment division lifted its contribution to £1.83 million, from £1.26 million. The shares fell 13p, to 315p.

Swallowfield rebounds

PROFITS at Swallowfield, the supplier of aerosol products, recovered to £2.56 million before tax last year from £1.63 million in 1993 and, for the first time, returned to levels which were last seen in 1990. Sales were £34.87 million, a record, compared with £28.6 million in 1993 and just £22 million four years ago, evidence of the steady erosion of margins that has taken place in the industry, according to the company. Earnings of 13.3p a share compared with 9.6p in 1993. A final dividend of 3.5p a share, due on May 31, makes a total of 6.2p a share (5.2p).

Ennemix beats forecast

ENNEMIX, the aggregates and ready mixed concrete group, is on stony ground as it announces its first preliminary results. The shares, floated at 63p in September, traded at 38p yesterday after an overnight 10p fall, although the group's £724,000 pre-tax profit was ahead of the flotation forecast. The proposed 0.715p dividend was on target. Shareholders are due to be paid on May 16. Earnings per share were 8.68p. The company said that demand would suffer this year because of a reduction in road building and uncertainty in the housebuilding industry.

Quicks drives ahead

AFTER a slowdown in sales of new vehicles in the second half of 1994, Quicks Group, the Manchester motor distributor, said trading in the first quarter of the current year was ahead of the same period last year. The company said it would benefit from moves by manufacturers, notably Ford, to reduce the administrative burden on franchisees and working capital requirements. Quicks reported 1994 profits of £3.9 million before tax (£3.04 million) on turnover of £322.89 million (£227.7 million). Earnings were 10.5p a share (9.5p). A final dividend of 3.25p a share, due on June 23, making a total of 5.5p (5p).

Trafalgar man off Grid

ALLAN GORMLY, joint deputy chairman of Trafalgar House, has been forced to quit as a non-executive director of the National Grid because of Trafalgar's continued attempt to gain control of Northern Electric, one of the 12 regional electricity companies that jointly own the Grid. Mr Gormly was appointed last year in preparation for the Grid flotation expected this summer. When Trafalgar bid £1.2 billion for Northern in December he coped with the apparent conflict of interest by standing aside from Grid duties. Although the bid failed, Trafalgar has said it still wants bid talks with Northern.

Miners cut shifts at bought-out pit

By A Correspondent

MINERS at the first British coal pit to be reopened in a workers' buy-out have been put on a four-day week. The 239 men at Tower Colliery in South Wales are now seeking new buyers for their top-quality coal so they can step up production and return to full-time working. They are remaining on full pay.

The pit at Hirwaun in Mid Glamorgan has a stockpile of 30,000 tonnes of coal, and the miners are still reaching their production target of 10,000 tonnes a week.

Tyrone O'Sullivan, 48, a former miner who is now a director of the company, said: "Our job is not to maximise profit but to maximise jobs. We want this pit to last for another eight, ten or 15 years. What we want is a long-life pit working efficiently."

The miners returned to work in January, eight months after they were made redundant by British Coal. The pit currently has orders for two-thirds of its projected output over the next year. The buy-out team is now hoping to attract new customers in Europe for Tower Colliery's anthracite coal.

The miners each paid £8,000 from their redundancy cash to become shareholders in the pit.



O'Sullivan: protecting jobs

Nynex flotation delayed

By Eric Reguly

NYNEX CableComms, one of the largest cable operators, is delaying its £400 million Anglo-American flotation by a month because the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington has not approved its prospectus yet.

Nynex, owned by Nynex of New York, and the main main cable provider in Manchester, had expected approval this week, allowing the shares to start trading within a month. Nicholas Mearing-Smith, chief financial officer, said he now expects trading to begin on the London and Nasdaq markets in early June.

He blames the delay on "real nitty-gritty legal-type stuff," not any serious shortcomings discovered by the SEC. Nynex's expansion plans will not be affected by the lengthened timetable, he said.

The company plans to split the issue between the US and Europe, mostly in Britain. It is the third cable operator to raise equity in Britain since November, when TeleWest Communications completed a £400 million offering.

Nynex also announced that Sir Christopher Bland, former chairman of London Weekend Television, is to become deputy chairman. Sir Michael Checkland, former Director-General of the BBC, and John Rennocks, finance director of PowerGen, will become non-executive directors.

SFA orders a halt to unregulated business

By Jon Ashworth

THE Securities and Futures Authority has clamped down on a City futures and options firm which has extensive dealings with clients in Germany. Phillip Alexander Securities and Futures, based in Finsbury Pavement, has been ordered not to accept business from unregulated introducing brokers operating in Germany and other parts of Europe.

The firm has been instructed to close off open positions with existing clients. Small groups of unregulated individuals in Germany commonly offer locals the prospect of high returns by investing in futures and options. These introducing brokers need outlets in London or Chicago to allow them to execute the trades. Phillip Alexander simply carried out the trades on behalf of the foreign brokers, but instances of "churning" by the Germans are understood to have given the SFA cause for concern.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.28	2.11
Austria Sch	16.66	15.06
Belgium Fr	48.22	43.92
Canada $	2.349	2.189
Cyprus Cypf	0.746	0.691
Denmark Kr	9.31	8.51
Finland Mkk	7.42	6.77
France Fr	8.15	7.50
Germany Dm	2.38	2.15
Greece Dr	376.00	351.00
Hong Kong $	13.10	12.10
Ireland Pt	1.05	0.97
Israel	5.2555	4.5055
Italy Lira	2855.00	2700.00
Japan Yen	152.00	136.00
Malta	0.597	7.542
Netherlds Gld	2.619	2.389
Norway Kr	10.49	9.69
Portugal Esc	244.00	225.50
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.38
Spain Pta	208.50	195.50
Sweden Kr	12.54	11.74
Switzerland Fr	1.83	1.75
Turkey Lira	refer	65297.0
USA $	1.709	1.579

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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AUSTRALIA	20/28	52
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SINGAPORE	40	70
SOUTH AFRICA	44/60	77
HONG KONG	40	70
TAIWAN	40	104
BRAZIL	68	100
COLOMBIA	68	104
ISRAEL	64	87
MALAYSIA	76	104

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LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

William Marshall Deceased
PURSUANT to the Reverter of Sites Act 1987 and to the Trustee Act 1925 Section 27 NOTICE IS GIVEN that all persons claiming to be beneficially interested in the estate of William Marshall late of Ruskin House, Manchester Road, Burnley in the County of Lancashire who died on the 3rd December, 1913 are required to send particulars thereof to the undersigned Solicitor to the Trustee on or before the seventh day of June 1996, after which date the Trustee will distribute the fund having regard only to the claims then notified. G A Johnson Esq. Chief Executive/Clerk, Lancashire County Council, P O Box 78, County Hall, Preston, Lancashire. PR1 8XJ. Ref: 71/SCW/Marshall.

LEGAL NOTICES

Bilcare Ltd
T/A Holmes Place Lansdowne
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, on 19th April 1996 at 12.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 of sec. A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 5653, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors. DATED THIS 4th April 1996 R. Wood Director

CAURA LTD
Registered Number: 2786524
A meeting of unsecured creditors has been convened by the Joint Administrative Receivers of the above mentioned company pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986 for the purpose of presenting to that meeting a copy of the report prepared by the Administrative Receivers under Section 48(1) of the said Act and for the purpose of ascertaining the creditors wish to, to establish a committee of creditors under the provisions of Section 49 of the said Act.
The meeting will be held as follows: Date: 19 April 1996 Time: 11.30am Place: The Trustee Suite, London Chamber Of Commerce, 33 Queen Street, London EC4R 1AP.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting.
A creditor will only be entitled to vote at the creditors' meeting if:
a) he has given to the receivers, not later than 12 o'clock noon on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, details in writing of the debt that he claims to be due to him from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Insolvency Rules, and
b) there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers a proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf. A form of proxy is attached (Form 8.3).
Dated 2nd April 1996
Peter Anthony Lawrence and Colin George Wiseman
Joint Administrative Receivers
6 Raleigh Homes, Admirals Way, Waterside, London E14 9XP

Re: MR ALAN BUTT
TAKE NOTICE that the Certificated Bankfile certificate in respect of Mr Alan Butt has with effect from the 31 March 1996 been cancelled.

More Graphics Limited
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, on 19th April 1996 at 12.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 of sec. A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 5653, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors. DATED THIS 4th April 1996. D.P.Moores - Director

NEWGREEN UNDERWRITING AGENCIES LIMITED
The Insolvency Act 1986.
Notice is hereby given that the Creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before 3 May 1996, to send in their full forenames and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their solicitors (if any) to the undersigned Mr Arthur Anderson PO Box 68, 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT, the Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing by the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved. Dated 3 April 1996 P R SYKES Joint Liquidator

IN THE MATTER OF NEW FABRICS LTD (In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation)
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that general meetings of the Company and Creditors of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Messrs. Elliot, Woolfe & Rose, Lilgate House, 250 Kingsbury Road, London NW9 0BS on Friday 12 May 1996 at 10.00 o'clock and 10.15 o'clock in the forenoon respectively for the purposes of having an account laid before them, showing the manner in which the Winding-Up has been conducted and the property of the Company disposed of and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Liquidator, and also of determining the manner in which the books, accounts and documents of the Company and of the Liquidator should be disposed of.
A Creditor or Member entitled to attend and vote at the above meetings is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote instead of him. A proxy need not be a Member or Creditor.
MELVYN L. ROSE FCA
LIQUIDATOR
4 April 1996

MARUBENI UK DEVELOPMENT LIMITED
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
COMPANY NUMBER: 2158606
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rules 4.182A and 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the Liquidator of the above company intends to make a distribution to the creditors. Creditors are required to submit full details of their claims and their names and addresses to the Liquidator, Roger Smith, KPMG Peat Marwick, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on or before Friday 19 May 1996 which is the last day for proving claims. Notice is also given that the Liquidator proposes to make final distributions and that such distributions will be made without regard to any claims not made by the date mentioned.
Note: the company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Dated: 3 April 1996
R Smith - Liquidator

NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF FEATUREVALUE LIMITED - IN LIQUIDATION (FORMERLY BERLEI (UK) LIMITED
The Liquidator of Featurevalue Limited gives notice that he intends to make a final dividend to the non preferential unsecured creditors of the company on or after 1 May 1995.
Creditors who have not already done so, must send details in writing of any claim against the company to the Liquidator, P R C Dennam of Price Waterhouse at 31 Great George Street, Bristol BS1 5QD by 1 May 1995 which is the last day for submitting claims. A creditor who does not make a claim by that date will not be included in the proposed distribution.
Any creditor who has not received a formal acknowledgement of any claim submitted and/or an earlier dividend payment should contact the Liquidator at the above address to confirm that their are included within those creditors entitled to a distribution.
P R C Dennham
Liquidator

PARKLAND METAL LIMITED
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
COMPANY NO: 1643291
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rules 4.182A and 11.2 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that the Liquidator of the above named company intends to make a distribution to the creditors. Creditors are required to submit full details of their claims and their names and addresses to the Liquidator, R Smith, KPMG, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on or before Friday 12 May 1996, which is the last day for proving claims. Notice is also given that the Liquidator proposes to make final distributions and that such distributions will be made without regard to any claims not made by the date mentioned.
Note: the company is able to pay all known creditors in full.
Dated 4 April 1996
R & B International Limited
Registered number: 2787031.
Former company name: ROSENTECH LTD. Nature of business: TEXTILES AND CLOTHING MANUFACTURE. Trade classification: 08. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 21st March 1996. Name of person appointing the administrative Receivers: MR A. RADLEY, S. D. Swaden, FCA and J. J. Schapira, ACA, Joint Administrative Receivers, office holder nos: 2719 and 8794) of Leonard Curtis & Co PO Box 563, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF

TRAFALGAR HOUSE ENVIRONMENT SERVICES LIMITED
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
COMPANY NUMBER: 1198418
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rules 4.182A and 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the Liquidator of the above company intends to make a distribution to the creditors. Creditors are required to submit full details of their names and addresses to the Liquidator, Roger Smith, KPMG, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on or before Friday 12 May 1996 which is the last day for proving claims. Notice is also given that the Liquidator proposes to make final distributions and that such distributions will be made without regard to any claims not made by the date mentioned.
Note: the company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Dated: 3 April 1996
R Smith - Liquidator

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
GARTMORE AMERICAN SECURITIES PLC
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above company are required, on or before 9 May 1995 to send in their full names and addresses and full particulars of their debts or claims to me and, if so required by notice in writing from me, are, personally or by their solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated: 31/3/95
M E Mitchell
Joint Liquidator
N.B. All known creditors have been or will be paid in full, but if any other creditors have any claims against the company they should send in full details forthwith.

WILLOW LODGE
(87 ANNESS) LIMITED
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
Company number: 1097146
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF WILLOW LODGE (87 ANNESS) LIMITED
On 21 March 1995 the company was placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Anthony John Patrick Brereton and Ian Clifford of Price Waterhouse were appointed liquidators by the shareholders.
The liquidators give notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidators at Wellington House, 31-33 Princess Street, Manchester M2 4WS by 9 May 1996 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidators also give notice that they will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Date 5 April 1996
AJP Brereton
Liquidator

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before 3 May 1996, to send in their full forenames and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their solicitors (if any) to the undersigned Mr Arthur Anderson PO Box 68, 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT, the Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing by the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved. Dated 3 April 1996 P R SYKES Joint Liquidator

No. 001008 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF STOVES LIMITED
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of The High Court of Justice, (Chancery Division) dated 22nd March 1995 confirming the reduction of the share premium account of the above named Company by £1,986,000 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 22nd March 1995. Dated this 7th day of April 1995.
Ashurst Morris Crisp
Broadwalk House
5 Appold Street
London EC2A 2HA
Tel: 0171 638 1111
Ref: SAW
Solicitors of the said Company

Notice under The Trustee Act 1925, Section 27 -
THE NEW TANDEM SHOES PENSION AND LIFE ASSURANCE SCHEMES THE TANDEM SHOES PENSION SCHEME
Notice is hereby given Pursuant to Section 27 of the Trustee Act 1925 that above Schemes are to be wound up in the near future. Anyone who may be entitled to benefits from either Scheme, whether as a member or otherwise, and who has not already heard from the Trustees should contact them at the address shown below not later than 7th July 1996. c/o Harvey Ingram 20 New Walk, Leicester LE1 6TX

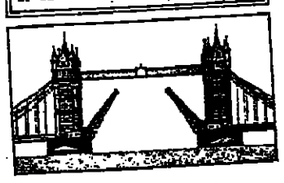
TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased persons whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified, after which date the assets of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.
JUDITH TAUBE of 1 The Fountains, Bellevue Lane, Finchley, Widow. Died 7 January 1995. Particulars to Rock, Orel & Co. 14/15 College Crescent London NW3 5LL solicitors for the executors. Peter Thorpe and Derek Aspinall on or before 10 June 1995. Dated 6 April 1996.

☐ Peace dividends are not to be relied on ☐ Virgin's video nasty ☐ The Not So Serious Fraud Office

Ulster's long haul

PENNINGTON



☐ EVERY positive business move in Northern Ireland tends to be attributed to the peace dividend. In reality, it is a way off. Yesterday, for instance, there was much ado about the Indonesian-backed Norfil polyester yarn plant, where recruitment begins this week and could eventually add up to 900 jobs. But that plant has little to do with the peace process and did not rely on grants. It was meant to start work in 1993 but was delayed by recession on the Continent, its intended market. More solidly, Belfast's Aldergrove airport saw a 10 per cent rise in traffic in the year to end March. But traffic lagged behind the 35 per cent rise in seat capacity put on by airlines.

From a strictly economic view, normality is not a wholly wonderful prospect for Ulster folk. Thirty years ago, before the generation-long Troubles, unemployment was running at 6 per cent against a UK average of 1.4 per cent of the workforce and 3 per cent in Scotland, the most depressed part of the mainland in those days before oil.

Come rain or economic shine, Ulster has generally maintained the highest rates of unemployment, between three and four percentage points above the national average. The gap may not seem so great when unemployment rates are permanently stuck much higher than in the postwar decades. But in February this year, after all the statistical changes, official unemployment in Northern Ireland stood at 12.1 per cent when the national average was 8.4 per cent. Thirty years on, the relationship was the same.

Ulster's economic problems have not changed much either. It is remote from the centre of the Kingdom, let alone the European Union, and relies on declining industries such as textiles, shipbuilding and the arms trade. The European Community has made the biggest economic difference. Basic industries such as textiles can have a new lease of life as EU bases, relying on local expertise and earnings traditionally 10 per cent-plus below the national average. But not all those seeking grants are the sort of companies that should be welcomed.

Grant-based factories tend to be high-risk disposable ventures in Ulster as elsewhere. To avoid a high-risk, branch factory economy, Ulster needs to develop indigenous firms and create new ones. Tourism and luxury goods may prove more worthwhile than commodity production that would logically go to next in the queue of developing countries. But fewer businesses are created in Northern Ireland, *pro rata*, than in the rest of the Kingdom. Regional unemployment rates vary inversely with start-ups, perhaps because venturers migrate, perhaps local finance needs a helping hand.

The more industry that Ulster can attract from America and the Far East, which need cheap European footholds, the faster its economic transition will be kick-started. Reversing the province's traditional relative poverty is a do-it-yourself job.

Branson set to tune in

☐ IF, AS is being heavily hinted at, the Virgin consortium has come up with a novel way of retuning a few million of the nation's video recorders without knocking on the same number of front doors, this would be a matter of great interest to other putative bidders for Channel 5, which is probably why Virgin is being so cagey on the subject.

The potential public relations nightmare that such an exercise presents must have put off a fair number of potential Channel 5 operators. Bidders will have to pass financial and programming thresholds, proving that they can both survive the ten-year franchise life and not rely too heavily on re-runs of *I Love Lucy* to do so. But they must also indicate how they will overcome the problem of retuning, and how much they believe it will cost.

For this reason if for no other, details of the various consortium bids will not be much in evidence until the May 2 deadline. Virgin TV, which is what it is being called even if everyone is keen to play up the role of the other parties, will rope in another partner in due course. This will probably be a big provider of programming, this being the one area where the consortium is still under strength.

If it gains the franchise, in due course the business will eventually be floated, giving the various participants an immediate return on their involvement.

Virgin's entry into TV, although expected, gives rise to much speculation about where Mr Branson is going next. The alliance with Delta earlier this year makes any sale of the airline much easier. In a relatively short lifetime, Mr Branson has built up and exited the music industry, floated his company and then taken it private again, and largely got out of retailing. If he does sell the airline, as some speculation has it, it would be consistent with a lifelong and rather endearing habit of inconsistency, as would a rumoured interest in getting back into music again.

Virgin still has the cola, vodka and financial services ventures started this year. The signs are that Mr Branson will not be too heavily involved in the TV side. But his ambitions clearly extend considerably further than fizzy pop and Peps.

SFO hits the small time

☐ RAISE a cheer for the Serious Fraud Office, which has managed to win a conviction. Yar Ahmed Khan, the former general manager of General Credit Finance, is now contemplating his fate after being convicted of fraudulent trading and four counts of reckless inducement to make a deposit.

In many ways this was a model prosecution compared with previous attempts to bring fraudsters to book. The trial lasted only six weeks, and the evidence was kept sufficiently clear to protect the jury and the judge from being completely bamboozled. This, after all, was a fairly straightforward case: people had invested money through General Credit, and the money is now missing.

There is only one small problem. While he was at large, Mr Khan was only able to spirit away £700,000 of investors' money. By the SFO's own standards this hardly rates as a serious fraud since the organisation normally imposes a £5 million lower limit on the cases it investigates, although it can take on smaller cases that need it to exercise its impressive powers of investigation.

Nor could this case conceivably be considered high profile, since it was simply too small to fire the public's imagination. British prisons are still remarkably empty of big-time fraudsters. Perhaps if the SFO has any more time on its hands, it can start investigating the disappearance of the works' tea fund.

Never mind, Mr Khan's misfortunes will do wonders for the SFO's all-important conviction rate.

Court order

☐ JUSTICE is getting better and better for the many thousands caught on rogue Lloyd's underwriting syndicates and offered insulting treatment in the insurance market's failed global settlement. But justice is not much use unless real money is paid to meet real bills. For that reason, Lloyd's should have another go, this time using the courts' ideas of what is fair rather than interested insiders'.

Ibstock confirms an approach to Tarmac

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

THE UK brick industry is set for further consolidation after Ibstock confirmed approaching Tarmac, the construction company, with a view to acquiring its brick interests.

Industry experts estimate the deal to be worth £60 million. The move would reinforce Ibstock's position as Britain's third-largest brick maker behind Hanson and Redland.

Hanson and Redland have a combined share of about 50 per cent of the UK market for bricks. Ibstock currently has 10 per cent and Tarmac 5-8 per cent.

Any acquisition by Ibstock would see Britain's top three players carve up virtually 70 per cent of the brick market. Analysts expect this to result in consolidation, which they view as positive for the industry as a whole. It may allow useful price rises as the companies exploit their market positions.

Analysts say that Tarmac, due to report final results next Tuesday, would benefit from cash raised by a sale of its brick operations. The division, which produces 300 million bricks from ten sites spread from Plymouth to the North East, is viewed as non-core by Tarmac and is believed to be valued at £90 million in its books. Its real value, however, is estimated at between £60 million and £70 million.

Some analysts say that Tarmac's management would have liked to have sold the division in 1993, but it would probably have fetched only £30 million at the time. By boosting the division, and waiting for signs of recovery after last year's destocking, Tarmac should now be able to sell at a higher price.

Tarmac, thought by some to have off-balance sheet debt of up to £100 million, would probably like to reduce that level to allow it to boost its housing output. It is also thought to be looking for acquisitions outside the UK, particularly in construction-related areas.

John Davis, Tarmac's media relations manager, said: "We have received an exploratory inquiry from Ibstock, but it is too early to predict the likely outcome of this approach."

Ibstock, in contrast, has been concentrating on its brick operations after recently increasing its capacity by 25 per cent, with two recent acquisitions in Scotland. Ibstock's brick making capacity was raised by 50 million bricks to 400 million last year.

It also unveiled plans last month to sell its 56.3 per cent stake in Companhia de Celulose do Caima, the Portuguese forestry and pulp group, with the stake estimated to be worth £46.7 million.

Ibstock, which is understood to be conducting due diligence studies, said it was too early to anticipate the outcome of the talks with Tarmac. A further announcement would be made "when appropriate".

Scholl shows a spring in its step

BY SARAH BAGNALL



Franchino: a tough year

SCHOLL, the personal care products group, has kicked off the current year with its strongest trading performance in three years. Neil Franchino, chief executive, said current trading looked very positive after a year of tough market conditions. But he added: "It is too early to know whether these improvements can be sustained."

Mr Franchino unveiled a drop in pre-tax profits from £16.7 million to £2.8 million in the year to December 31. Profits were hit by a net exceptional restructuring cost of £9.7 million.

The group benefited from strong growth in southeast Asia and acquisitions, which partly offset the impact of tough European conditions.

Scholl warned the City in December that shareholders should not expect an increase in the final dividend. The final payment, due May 15, was held at 3.8p, making an unchanged dividend for the year of 6.4p. Earnings before exceptional costs fell from 12.7p to 10.3p a share. The shares fell 2p to 146p.

Tempus, page 26

Mexico provision hits United Clays

BY MARTIN BARROW

FINANCIAL turbulence in Mexico has rocked United Clays, the American subsidiary of Watts Blake Bearne & Co, where the discovery of accounting errors last year led to the departure of the division's financial officer.

Watts Blake is now searching for a new president at United after operating profits fell sharply because of a provision against lengthening trade receivables from Mexico, a market that accounts for almost a third of United's sales tonnage.

The British company said United endured "a difficult and disappointing year" and needed to achieve a substantial increase in income to cover technical and administrative costs in order to generate an acceptable level of profit.

In spite of the Mexican setback, Watts Blake ended 1994 with profits up to £9.9 million before tax, from £7.7 million. The 28.3 per cent increase owed much to a strong performance by Devon Clays in the UK, reflecting growth in the domestic ceramics industry. Although growth in demand in Britain slackened in the second half, export sales improved throughout the year, with improvements in continental Europe, notably Spain, augmenting further strong growth beyond Europe.

Earnings rose to 27.9p a share from 22.4p. The total dividend is increased to 13.5p a share from 12p, with a 9.6p final payable on July 3. The shares rose 18p to 495p. Watts Blake is 47.7 per cent owned by SCR-Sibelco, the Belgian company which narrowly failed to take over the company in an £87 million takeover battle.

Alfred McAlpine reports another gloomy year

BY MARTIN WALLER

DES JENSON



Whitehead, right, and finance director Ken Lever

CONTINUING difficulties in the construction market hit Alfred McAlpine last year. However, the non-repetition of provisions from 1993 allowed the builder to increase pre-tax profits to £10.7 million from £1.17 million.

The figures included a £6 million loss from construction operations — despite sharply higher turnover as work taken on at the end of 1993 came on stream. Oliver Whitehead, the chief executive, said: "The construction market is tough and competitive — it has been, and it is going to be in future.

"We shouldn't be looking for a recovery. We should be saying, 'This could be the recovered market — we've got to find a way to make some profits in it.'"

McAlpine's housing operations, however, boosted operating profits by 68 per cent to £17.9 million, on turnover of £181 million (up 47 per cent). The rise came from more completions and a higher average selling price.

The group is paying a 4.0p final dividend, raising the total by 0.5p to 7.0p, fully covered by 10.2p earnings per share. Earnings were 0.7p the previous year, after exceptional items of £6.5 million. The construction losses surprised the market, which marked shares down 5p to 145p.

Tempus, page 26

Golden 1994 for Cluff

BY COLIN CAMPBELL

CLUFF RESOURCES had made several significant strides across Africa in the year ended December 31, and was now well on its way to becoming a major African gold producer, Algy Cluff, the chairman, said.

In fiscal 1994, Cluff produced a record 79,236 ounces (59,060 ozs) of gold from its operations in Zimbabwe and the new Ayanfuri mine in Ghana. This year, Cluff's gold production should advance to 130,000 oz. Within the medium term, an annual gold production of 250,000 ounces is in prospect.

Every $10 change in the world gold price has a $1 million impact on the bottom line. Cash operating costs per ounce are expected to fall from last year's $269 to an average $220 this year, the company said.

Mr Cluff said prospecting work within Tanzania at the Geita project was going well, and that the company had ambitions to extend its exploration net into other parts of black Africa.

The group reports a pre-tax profit of £416,000 for 1994 compared with a previous year's £218,000 pre-tax loss. At the net level, and following a hefty provision for deferred tax, there is a net loss after tax and minorities of £1.2 million (£762,000 net loss). Again, no dividend is recommended.

Direct Line claims challenged

BY ROBERT MILLER

DIRECT LINE, the insurer that revolutionised the motor insurance market by undercutting the traditional giants, has been reported to the Advertising Standards Authority for claiming to be "Best for Price" in its latest poster campaign.

Direct Line, launched ten years ago, is owned by the Royal Bank of Scotland and now insures more than 2 million motorists. Its founder and chief executive, Peter Wood, is now a multi-millionaire.

The ASA yesterday confirmed that it had received a complaint about Direct Line's advertising from the British Insurance & Investment Brokers Association (BIIBA), which represents nearly 3,000 insurance brokers. Bill Lennon, of the ASA, said: "The matter will be investigated. If an advertisement breaches our code, we can order it to be withdrawn or amended."

Competition in the £20 billion household and motor insurance market has now reached fever pitch. Premiums are falling as more and more companies imitate Direct Line's pioneering direct writing technique of doing business over the telephone and as a result of the number of insurance claims having fallen over the past two years.

In a letter to the ASA, which last year received 223 complaints on financial advertising, Sharon Bolton, a director of the BIIBA, said that it objected to Direct Line's poster claim that it is "Best for Price. Best for Service". The letter said that a small number of its members had supplied cases where they could beat Direct Line. Ms Bolton said: "Had I made my appeal public, I am sure that I would have received hundreds, if not thousands, of examples of how brokers have offered better prices than Direct Line."

If the advertising watchdog rejects the complaint — as it has over a previous poster that said "Best for Motor. Best for Home" — the BIIBA might take legal advice on whether to pursue its case through the courts, Ms Bolton said. She added: "Direct Line has many, many millions of pounds to spend on advertising, whereas brokers don't. We want the company to withdraw the advertisement."

A spokesman for Direct Line said: "The BIIBA complaint doesn't really follow the spirit of what advertising is all about."

In a recent survey, 9 out of 10 of our customers said they would recommend Griffin Factors to their friends and colleagues in other businesses. What have we done to make people speak so highly of us? Could it be we offer a more flexible form of finance that means you can secure a healthy cashflow? The fact that you receive up to 80% of your invoices as cash within just 24 hours? Our Credit Management Service (which frees you up to spend time making money not chasing it) possibly? Or even Griffin's Credit Protection that helps you do business knowing that you're protected from bad debts? Whatever it is, it certainly keeps our customers happy. Why not give us a call on 0800 34 34 35 and find out for yourself?

90% OF OUR CUSTOMERS ARE HAPPY TO RECOMMEND US.

{ IT'S AMAZING WHAT PEOPLE WILL SAY WHEN YOU PAY THEM. }

GRIFFIN FACTORS
Cashflow for Business
Member HSBC Group

Source of figures: CFS Client Survey for Griffin Factors, September 1994.

STOCK MARKET



MICHAEL CLARK

Shares make headway after opening setback

SHARE prices continued to make headway in the face of further volatility on world currency markets which saw both the dollar and sterling come under renewed pressure.

Although early gains in the equity market were eventually halved, it was an impressive performance. Brokers reported strong evidence of genuine retail demand with blue chips featuring prominently, for a change, among some of the day's most actively traded issues. These included **Glaxo**, up 6p at 731p, on turnover of 14.5 million shares, **Dixons**, 1p dearer at 234p, as almost nine million changed hands and **British Steel**, down 1¾p at 158¾p, where volume reached more than 10 million shares. This compared with total turnover of 656 million.

Share prices opened lower but climbed back above the 3,200 level once it became apparent that central bank intervention had achieved little success in propping up the ailing dollar.

At one stage the FT-SE 100 index was 22 points higher but with Wall Street struggling to make headway in early trading, it had its lead reduced to 10.7 at 3,200.9 at the close.

Elsewhere among the leaders **Vodafone** fell 5p to 194p in heavy volume that saw 13.5 million shares traded. ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker, is said to be taking a cautious view of the shares in spite of publication of another record rise in new connections earlier this week.

The clearing banks enjoyed double-figure gains after a few words of encouragement from Nomura, the Japanese securities house. Nomura says there is still more to acquire in the sector in spite of profits and dividend paying capacity being at record levels. There were useful gains for **Barclays**, 10p to 651p, **Lloyds**, 9p to 629p, **Abbey National**, 8p to 484p and **HSBC**, 9p to 727p.

Standard Chartered also rallied 9p to 294p in the wake of this week's placing by Lloyds Bank of its 4.6 per cent stake. But the company has received a vote of confidence from the Prudential, which has picked up 8.5 million shares, or almost 1 per cent.

Johnson Matthey, the precious metals group, was chased higher with a rise of 19p to 551p on the back of a recommendation from Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, on confirmation of reports that Ibstock wants to buy its brick making division. The business is valued at about £80 million on Tarmac's books but it was emphasised that talks are at an early stage. Rationalisation within the industry has seen capacity cut by 25 per cent in the past six years.

Cowie Group stood out with a rise of 9p to 266p after telling shareholders that trade had been strong in the first three months of the year, with the group well ahead of 1994.

First Choice Holidays climbed 6p to 122p after shareholders were told that the group was making progress in an increasingly difficult market. Michael Julian, chairman, said bookings were 6 per cent up on last year.

Shares of USM-listed **CRP Leisure** were suspended at 6p pending shareholder permission to transform itself into a property developer after agreeing to acquire FGL Investments, a private property developer, for about £3 million. CRP is expected to partly finance the deal with the £900,000 is raised last September.

Osprey Communications slipped 3p to 32p having revealed that last year's profits were overstated by £187,000. The final figures should have read £192,000, not the £379,000 published. The company said the group's ability to pay a dividend was unaffected.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Gilts drifted easier with investors in cautious mood ahead of today's US employment numbers. The one bright spot was index-linked issues, which closed with gains of about £3/16 as the Bank of England managed to sell most of the £300 million worth of extra tranches issued on Wednesday. In the futures pit, the June series of the **long gilt** closed £¼ down at £103½ in thin trading that saw a mere 32,000 contracts traded.

Among conventional issues **Treasury 8 per cent 2013** lost £7/32 at £96⅝, while at the shorter end **Treasury 8 per cent 2000** was a tick easier at £98 23/32.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street share prices were cut in early morning trading as investors turned cautious ahead of today's March unemployment figures and non-farming payrolls. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was up 3.46 points at 4,204.03.



Catalytic converters gave Johnson Matthey a boost

The company is benefiting from the soaring price of platinum, which earlier this week hit a four-and-a-half year high. The metal is being used increasingly in catalytic converters for cars. In fact business is booming. The US group Engelhard even claims to have developed a converter that cleans-up carbon monoxide and ground level smog.

also been strengthened by the appointment of John Finlayson, a director of Fletcher Newspapers, as finance director. Kevin Harrington is staying on as managing director.

Alfred McAlpine, the construction engineer, dipped 5p to 145p despite a bigger than expected payout in the final dividend and confident remarks about trading pros-

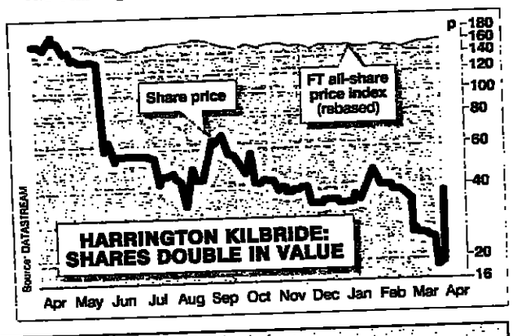
Cadbury Schweppes, the US soft drinks group, was one of the top 100 companies that failed to make headway. It finished 3p lower at 441p. Brokers said the price was depressed by the news that David Wellings, the chief executive, had sold a parcel of shares totalling 52,664.

Harrington Kilbride, the troubled publishing group, saw its share price double to 38p after Ian Fletcher paid over-the-odds for a 5 per cent stake and was appointed chief executive. Mr Fletcher, who publishes a chain of free and paid newspapers, has spent £250,000, or 50p a share, for his holding — 31p above the ruling markt price.

The Harrington board has

pects. The group weighed in with pre-tax profits at the lower end of expectations of £10.7 million covering the 14 months to December, compared with £1.2 million the previous year. The group said the main thrust of the improvement came from its housebuilding operations, while construction slipped into the red.

Tarmac firmed ½p to 113p



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):		
Dow Jones	4204.03	(+3.46)
S&P Composite	505.30	(-0.27)
Tokyo:		
Nikkei Average	19815.87	(-66.62)
Hong Kong:		
Hang Seng	8418.18	(-73.75)
Amsterdam:		
EOE Index	400.22	(+2.39)
Sydney:		
AO	1980.3	(-2.1)
Frankfurt:		
DAX	1979.27	(+9.43)
Singapore:		
Straits	2095.07	(-6.09)
Brussels:		
General	7035.90	(+65.69)
Paris:		
CAC-40	1890.16	(+17.24)
Zurich:		
SKA Gen	582.90	(+3.10)
London:		
FT 30	2447.1	(+3.1)
FT 100	3200.9	(+10.7)
FT-SE Mid 250	3482.4	(+14.1)
FT-SE-A 350	1587.5	(+5.6)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1277.00	(+9.16)
FT A All-Share	1566.05	(+5.27)
FT Non Financials	1689.35	(+4.18)
FT Fixed Interest	111.12	(+0.10)
FT Govt Secs	92.06	(+0.08)
Bargains	34134	
SEAQ Volume	754.0m	
USM (Datastrm)	149.76	(+0.18)
US$	1.6088	(+0.0053)
German Mark	2.2140	(-0.0040)
Exchange Index	84.5	(-0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)		
£:ECU	1.1952	
£:SDR	1.0278	
RPI	146.9 Feb (3.4%) Jan 1987=100	

RECENT ISSUES

Albright & Wilson (150)	165½	+ ½
Beale	171	...
Brit Aerospace Uts	123	...
Colleagues	150	...
Dailywin (128)	130	...
Datrontech (130)	136	...
Expro Intl (175)	174	...
F&C (100)	100	...
Geared Inc Inv (100)	99	...
Golden Rose Cms (135)	115	...
HTR Inc/Gth Split (100)	102	...
Inv Capital Wts	17½	- ½
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts	84	...
Melrose Energy Wts	3½	...
Montnro UK Smlr (100)	95	...
-ditto- Wts	44	...
Nat Power (p/p) (476)	173	+4
PTS Group (90)	92	...
PowerGen (p/p) (512)	188	...
Schroder Inc Gth Uts	528	+8
Scot Oriental Smlr (100)	96	+ ½
Superframe Group (50)	40	...
Superframe Wts	6	...
Throg Dual Zero Div Pf	103	...
Zotefoams (145)	174	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Acorn Computer n/p (80)	5½	...
Arcon Intl n/p (Ir20p)	1	...
Beauford n/p (28)	1	...
Guinness Peat n/p (20)	5	-1
Horsce Sml App n/p (90)	37	...
Marley n/p (112)	14½	-1½
Rhino Group n/p (8)	¼	...
TBI n/p (35)	2	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Barclays	651p (+10p)
Redland	456p (+10p)
S & U	304p (+10p)
Zeneca	905p (+13p)
Reg Vardy	205p (+17p)
Broken Hill	857p (+39p)
Frost Group	263p (+11p)

FALLS:

Wardle Storeys	315p (-13p)
Br Land	374p (-6p)

Closing Prices Page 30

TEMPUS

Awkward construction

ALFRED McALPINE prides itself on being open with the City, so it is a pity that the extent of the problems in its Midlands construction operation and in eastern Germany should have knocked the share price after they were revealed along with the 14-month figures. The group is refusing to say how much these problems cost, but without them the construction division would have turned in a small profit rather than a £6 million operating loss.

McAlpine did take the opportunity to warn the market in February, when the group sold its quarry products to George Wimpey, that the outlook for construction was poor while the housing market had taken another dip, so analysts should not have been too surprised at yesterday's figures. The group lost money both on the Longleat Center Parcs contract and on a range of about eight middling construction jobs in the Midlands that are now finished, or as good as, so the bad news is probably out of the way. But construction will probably continue to lose money this year, and while it should break even in 1996, so slim are the margins that another few minor slip-ups could send it back into the red again.

Oliver Whitehead, the chief executive, concedes that the housing market is still not good, even if the past few weeks have shown some improvement. Such an upturn has been noted and then lost in the past, of course. For now, clean profits of £14 million this year put the shares on 11.5 times earnings, rising to £16.5 million in 1996. A yield above 6 per cent gives the shares some support, but progress from here will be slow.

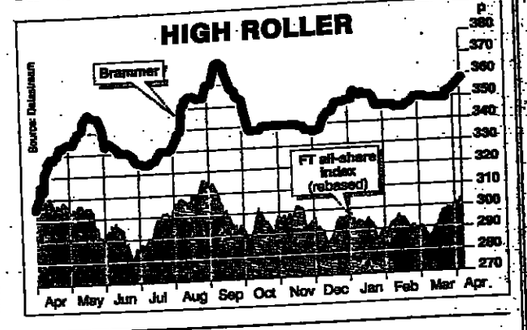
Brammer

BRAMMER is almost a barometer of the industrial sector, supplying bearings, chains and other moving parts to industry. Primarily a replacement business — the average sale is only £100 — it must stock a huge range to meet emergency orders.

Recession took its toll on Brammer, with a steady decline in profits leaving its dividend barely covered in 1993. The industrial pick-up last year lifted sales by 16 per cent, and Brammer was able to increase its gross margin. The market expects profits to rise by more than 25 per cent this year, making the shares look cheap at 13 times earnings.

More impressive than the recovery in demand was Brammer's ability to hold down costs. BSL has extended its stock control system to France and last year the company was able to keep its working capital almost stable in spite of strong growth in sales. The result was a huge increase in cash flow that leaves Brammer with a net £3.4 million in the bank.

Brammer is spending the money in Spain, hoping to repeat the success of its acquisition of Roulement Service, in France, where sales grew by a fifth last year. The deal should help to keep profits growing in the longer term, but Brammer faces immediate pressures as German and Swedish bearing manufacturers raise their prices. Dealing in small orders, the company has more margin to play with, but it is not immune to competition in a fragmented market.



Scholl

SIGNS are emerging that some of the bounce may be returning to Scholl's step. The footcare products group has had the best start to a new year in three years with increased activity across the entire product range. But the key concern is whether the uplift is here to stay and, if it is, how much will be eroded on the way to the bottom line.

Whether the uplift is more than just a blip will become apparant in the next couple of months as the group's most important quarter is the second.

Last year was tough. Domestic sales fell, although this was partly a timing issue because it reflected the sharp contraction in supply chains of both retailers and wholesalers. Continental European sales were flat but South East Asia saw operating profits double.

Gross margins held up at 54 per cent in spite of falling margins in the UK, where increased sales to supermarkets has hit margins. Offsetting the decline was a change in product mix as sales of licenced products declined.

The £8 million restructuring programme underway should reap annual savings of £1.5 million but not until 1996. This, together with the fact that uncertainty over the sustainablity of the uplift will only become clear with the announcement of the interim results, makes the shares no more than a hold.

Walker Greenbank

WALKER GREENBANK'S wallpaper designs may be old-fashioned and traditional but there is nothing staid about its growth rate. Operating profits rose by 22 per cent last year, virtually all of it due to organic growth.

The company is well on its way to achieving the target of generating half of its sales overseas within the next three years. As it already holds 65 per cent of the commercial wallcoverings market in the UK this is clearly a sensible aim. There is more scope for growth in the consumer end of the market in the UK, but given the huge demand for English country style wallpaper and fabrics overseas, it might as well leverage its distribution to do both.

The rapid growth the group has planned — and clearly seems capable of achieving — requires additional production capacity and investment. Last December's £17 million rights issue, which helped fund the acquisition of Warner Fabrics, will also provide some of the £25 million or so needed to expand over the next two years. It means that the group still has scope to pick up any other Warners that might be lying around.

On a prospective p/e of about 16 times, the shares are up with events for now, but they remain a good longer term buy.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

May	954-933	Jul	1045-1043
Jul	961-960	Sep	1055-1052
Sep	982-981	Dec	1070-1065
Dec	1003-1002	Mar	1084-1080
Mar	1024-1023		Volume 9767
May	1035-1033		

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	3120-3117	Jan	2985-2975
Jul	3075-3071	Mar	2970-2960
Sep	3027-3022	May	2960-2940
Nov	3005-2995		Volume 2451

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	317.9-316.8
Spot	366.0	Mar	315.7-315.5
Mar	367.8-67.0	May	315.5-315.0
Aug	355.4-54.5	Aug	314.6-314.0
Oct	327.0-26.5		Volume 5265

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average farmrock prices at representative markets on April 5

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	91.66	134.94	124.28
	-0.07	+5.03	+0.30
England&Wales	91.66	134.48	123.47
	-0.07	+4.26	-0.15
		+72.0	+14.0
	+1.0	136.06	128.73
Scotland	unq	+7.87	+2.91
		+25.0	+7.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	15.90	+0.15
Brent 15 day (May)	17.95	+0.15
Brent 15 day (Jun)	17.60	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (May)	19.45	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	19.30	+0.15

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	198 (+1)	Or 191 (+2)
Gasoil EEC	158 (+2)	150 (+2)
Num EEC 1H May	155 (+2)	150 (+2)
Num EEC 1H Jun	154 (+2)	155 (+2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	97 (+0.5)	99 (+0.5)
Naphtha	166 (+0.5)	168 (+0.5)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Apr	155.75-56.00	Jul	155.50-53.75
May	153.75-54.00	Aug	154.50-54.75
Jun	152.75-53.00		Vol 22156

BRENT ($.00pm)

May	17.92-17.94	Aug	17.22 SLR
Jun	17.61-17.63	Sep	17.13 SLR
Jul	17.38-17.40		Vol 35625

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	115.75	May	108.90
Jul	116.75	Sep	101.80
Sep	102.20	Nov	102.50
Nov	103.50	Jan	104.50
Jan	105.55	Mar	105.75
	Volume 423		Volume 52

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
May	349.0	353.0
Apr	129.5	129.5
May	unq	unq
		Volume 46

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

May 121.75-122.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $/lot/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Apr 95	2265	2255	2265
May 95	2225	2205	2215
Jun 95	2115	2100	2110
Jul 95	1990	close	1990
Vol 221 lots		Open interest 4254	
		Index = 1	

(Official) (Volume prev day)

Copper Gde A ($/tonne)		
Lead ($/tonne)		
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)		
Tin ($/tonne)		
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)		
Nickel ($/tonne)		

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

	Cash	3mth	Radolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A	2446.0-2446.5	2519.0-2519.5	176153
Lead	506.00-507.00	517.00-518.00	13130
Zinc Spec Hi Gde	1054.0-1055.0	1077.5-1078.0	46555
Tin	5945.0-5945.0	5980.0-5985.0	2230
Aluminium Hi Gde	1853.0-1855.0	1882.5-1883.0	140780
Nickel	7930.0-7935.0	7973.0-7975.0	6202

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Jun 95	3203.0	3245.0	3198.0	3230.0	13992
Previous open interest: 70990	Sep 95				3254.0	0
FT-SE 250	Jun 95	3495.0	3495.0	3495.0	3500.0	1
Previous open interest: 4292	Sep 95					0
Three Month Sterling	Jun 95	92.79	92.84	92.76	92.82	16505
Previous open interest: 394805	Sep 95	92.38	92.43	92.33	92.41	11349
	Dec 95	92.01	92.08	92.00	92.07	4650
Three Mth Eurodollar	Jun 95				93.58	0
Previous open interest: 1149	Sep 95				93.38	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Jun 95	95.31	95.33	95.30	95.31	23120
Previous open interest: 240451	Sep 95	95.12	95.15	95.11	95.12	25036
Long Gilt	Jun 95	103-17	103-22	103-13	103-16	32239
Previous open interest: 89941	Sep 95				103-06	0
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 95	115.46	115.73	115.41	115.54	3683
	Sep 95				114.75	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Jun 95	92.75	93.03	92.69	92.73	114234
Previous open interest: 181743	Sep 95	92.40	92.40	92.21	92.20	1739
Three month ECU	Jun 95	93.40	93.57	93.39	93.55	3042
Previous open interest: 19307	Sep 95	93.33	93.51	93.33	93.49	892
Euro Swiss Franc	Jun 95	96.65	96.65	96.59	96.60	2763
Previous open interest: 39095	Sep 95	96.54	96.55	96.47	96.52	675
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 95	93.60	94.68	93.53	94.10	39366
Previous open interest: 49171	Sep 95				93.45	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6% Finance Hse 7

Discount Market Loans: Overnight high: 6% Low 4 Week fixed: 6

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6 3 mth 6% Sell: 2 mth 6 3 mth: 6%

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⅛-6⅜	6⅛-6⅜	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⅛-6⅜	7⅛-7	7⅛-7⅜
Interbank:	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⅛-6⅜	7⅛-7	7⅛-7⅜

Overnight open 6⅛, close 6⅛

Local Authority Deps:	6⅛	n/a	6⅛	7	7⅛
Sterling CDs:	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	7⅛-7	7⅛-7⅜
Dollar CDs:	6.05	n/a	6.16	6.34	6.65
Building Society CDs:	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⅛-6⅜	7⅛-7	7⅛-7⅜

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Jan 31, 1995 agreed rates Feb 2a, 1995 to Mar 25, 1995 Scheme II 7.87%. Reference rate Dec 31, 1994 to Jan 31, 1995 Scheme IV & V: 6.624 %.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6⅛-5⅝	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-6	6⅛-6⅛	5⅛-6
Deutschemark:	4⅛-4	4⅛-4	4⅛-4⅛	4⅛-4	4-3
French Franc:	7⅛-7	7⅛-7	7⅛-7	7⅛-7⅛	3½-2
Swiss Franc:	3⅛-3	3⅛-3	3⅛-3	3⅛-3⅛	2½-1
Yen:	1⅛-1	1⅛-1	1⅛-1	1⅛-1⅛	

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Bullion Cut)

Bullion: Open $394.30-394.70 Close: $393.90-394.30 High: $394.30-394.80

Low: $392.10-392.60 AM: $393.75 PM: $393.40

Krugerrand: $395.00-397.00 (£245.75-247.75)

Platinum: $451.75 (£281.30) Silver: $5.41 (£3.365) Palladium: $173.00 (£107.70)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for April 6	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.4652-2.4775	2.4716-2.4749	½-¼pr	1¼-1pr
Brussels	45.24-45.51	45.35-45.46	6-3pr	1¼-1¾ds
Copenhagen	8.6890-8.7260	8.6980-8.7130	1-2ds	1-7ds
Dublin	0.9890-0.9964	0.9909-0.9934	par-4ds	1¼-1pr
Frankfurt	2.2024-2.2160	2.2083-2.2114	¼-¼pr	1¼-1pr
Lisbon	232.92-234.54	233.61-234.25	76-84ds	230-253ds
Madrid	201.04-201.97	201.22-201.52	41-51ds	135-152ds
Milan	2741.00-2762.50	2741.00-2750.00	8-11ds	27-34ds
Montreal	2.2298-2.2448	2.2398-2.2439	0.31-0.42ds	0.61-0.74ds
New York	1.6030-1.6106	9.9170-9.9320	1¼-¼pr	4¼-3pr
Oslo	9.8890-9.9300	7.6900-7.7040	¼-¼ds	2-2ds
Paris	7.6640-7.7240	11.8120-11.8360	1¼-2ds	5¼-6¼ds
Stockholm	11.8120-11.9220	137.11-137.72	¼-¼pr	1¼-1¼pr
Tokyo	137.11-137.72	15.54-15.57	2¼-1¼pr	7¼-5¼pr
Vienna	15.50-15.59	1.8037-1.8155	¼-¼pr	1¼-1¼pr
Zurich	1.8037-1.8155		1.9095-1.9123	

Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

Source: Extel

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3486-1.3495
Austria	9.66-9.67
Belgium (Comm)	28.22-28.23
Canada	1.3695-1.3890
Denmark	5.4115-5.4165
France	4.7805-4.7855
Germany	1.3750-1.3760
Hong Kong	7.7315-7.7325
Ireland	1.6185-1.6205
Italy	1713.00-1717.50
Japan	85.40-85.47
Malaysia	2.4925-2.4935
Netherlands	1.5393-1.5398
Norway	6.1728-6.1748
Portugal	145.35-145.45
Singapore	1.4051-1.4058
Spain	125.33-125.43
Sweden	7.3780-7.3880
Switzerland	1.1265-1.1275

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso	1.6091-1.6118
Australia dollar	2.1676-2.1704
Bahrain dinar	0.6010-0.6135
Brazil real	1.4562-1.4604
China yuan	12.75 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.6590-0.6770
Finland markka	6.7975-6.9135
Greece drachma	356.50-363.50
Hong Kong dollar	12.4284-12.4377
India rupee	50.18-51.14
Indonesia rupiah	3557.00-3625.60
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4665-0.4766
Malaysia ringgit	4.0070-4.0103
New Zealand dollar	2.4386-2.4419
Pakistan rupee	49.25 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.9825-6.1085
Singapore dollar	2.2589-2.2611
S Africa rand (com)	5.7703-5.7764
U A E dirham	5.8575-5.9815

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3I	1,400	Legal & Gn	1,700
ASDA Gp	5,800	Lloyds Bk	2,100
Abbey Nat	2,700	MEPC	1,900
Allid Dom	1,200	Marks Spr	7,100
Argyll Gp	1,700	NatWst Bk	3,800
Arjo Wiggn	2,500	Nat Power	2,700
AB Foods	340	Nth Wst W	1,200
BAA	2,300	P & O	1,800
BAT Inds	3,600	Pearson	2,300
BOC	584	PowerGen	3,900
BP	9,300	Prudential	2,600
BTR	6,200	RMC	599
BT	6,400	RTZ	3,200
Bk of Scot	2,000	Rank Org	3,500
Barclays	3,900	Reckitt Col	2,000
Bass	2,700	Redland	4,600
Blue Circle	4,600	Reed Intl	2,200
Boots	1,500	Rentokil	1,200
Bowater	480	Reuters	9,000
Brit Aero	1,900	Rolls Royce	1,800
Brit Airways	1,700	Ryl Ins	3,000
Brit Gas	5,000	Ryl Bk Scot	1,900
Brit Steel	10,000	Sainsbury	2,000
Burmah Cstl	258	Schroders	27
Cable Wire	7,300	Scot & New	1,200
Cadbury	6,800	Scot Power	716
Carndon	709	Sears	1,300
Carlton Cms	584	Svrn Trent	1,400
Cen Union	2,600	Shell Trans	5,400
Courtaulds	338	Siebe	523
De La Rue	1,300	Smith Nph	818
Eastern Elec	2,100	Sthern Elec	530
Enterpr Oil	2,000	Std Chartrd	5,600
Forte	4,200	Sun Allince	4,800
GRN	832	TI Gp	1,400
GRE	1,000	TSB	5,000
GUS	365	Tate & Lyle	2,500
Gen Acc	410	Tesco	4,000
Gen Elec	5,600	Thames W	1,200
Glaxo	14,000	Thrn EMI	1,600
Grand Met	2,100	Tomkins	2,300
Guinness	2,000	Unilever	2,300
HSBC	9,900	Utd Biscs	1,300
Hanson	6,100	Vodafone	13,000
ICI	940	Warburg	339
Imprcape	1,400	Whitbread	593
Kingfisher	6,200	Wilms Hld	849
Ladbroke	4,200	Wolsley	1,100
Land Secs	909	Zeneca	3,900

EUROPEAN & WALL STREET

	Apr 6 midday	Apr 5 close
AMP Inc	38½	38¾
AMR Corp	66¾	66¾
AT & T	52	52
Abbott Labs	38	37½
Advanced Micro	35	34¾
Aetna Life	58½	58¾
Allegheny (HP)	20	19¾
Air Prod & Chems	50¾	50¾
Albertson's	32	32¼
Alcan Aluminium	27¾	27¾
Alco Standard	71¾	71¾
Allied Signal	39¾	38¾
Alum Co of Am	42¾	42¾
Amax Gold Inc	5¾	5¾
Amerada Hess	50¾	50¾
Ameritech	38¾	38¾
Amer El Power	33	33
Amer Express	35¾	35
Amer Genl Corp	31¾	31¾
Amer Home Pr	74¾	74
Amer Intl	105	104¾
Amer Stores	26¼	25¾
Amerltech	43	42¾
Amoco	63	63¾
Anheuser-Busch	57¾	57¾
Apple Computer	36¾	34¾
Archer Daniels	18¾	18¾
Armco	6¾	7¼
Armstrong Wrld	45¾	45¾
Asarco	27	27¼
Ashland Oil	34¾	34¾
Atl Richfield	114¾	114¾
Auto Data Pro	61¼	62¼
Avery Dennison	39¾	39¾
Avon Products	59¾	60¾
Baker Hughes	20¾	20¾
Baldrn Gas & El	24	24¼
Banc One	30¾	30
Bank America	59¾	59¾
Bank of NY	33¾	33¾
Bankers Tr NY	54	53¾
Barnett Banks	46¾	46¾
Bausch & Lomb	36¾	36
Baxter Intl	33¾	33¾
Becm Dickinson	58¾	56¾
Bell Atlantic	53¾	54
Bell Industries	21¾	21¾
BellSouth	60¼	60¼
Black & Decker	28¾	29
Block (HAR)	43	42¾
Boeing	53¾	53¾
Boise Cascade	39¾	39¾
Bristol Myrs Sq	66¾	66¾
Browning Ferris	34¾	34¾
Brunswick	20¾	20¾
Burlington Nthn	58¾	58¾
CBS	94¾	95
CNA Financial	74¾	74¾
CPC Intl	55¾	55¾
CSX	78¾	78¾
Campbell Soup	47¾	47¾
Cas Pacific	15¾	15¾
Cpt Cities ABC	86¾	86¾
Carolina Pwr	27¾	27¾
Caterpillar	56¾	55¾
Central & Sw	25¾	25
Champion Int	42¾	43¾
Chase Manhat	40¾	38
Chemical Bk	40¾	39¾
Chevron Corp	46¾	47
Chrysler	40¾	40¾
Chubb Corp	79¾	79¾
Cigna Corp	73¾	74
Cincorp	44¾	44¾
Cintas	65¾	65¾
Coastal Corp	28¾	28¾
Coca Cola	58	58¾
Colgate-Palmolive	67¾	68¾
Columbia Gas	29¾	29¾
Compaq Comp	33	33¾
Comp Ass Int	59¾	58
Conagra	34¾	34¾
Conrail	53	53¾
Cons Edison	27¾	28¾
Cons Nat Gas	38¾	38¾
Cooper Inds	38¾	38¾
Corning Inc	36¾	36¾
Crown Cork	43¾	43¾
Data Corp	24¾	24¾
Dayton Hudson	69	71
Deere	81¾	80¾
Delta Air Lines	62¾	62
Deluxe Corp	29¾	29¾
Detroit Edison	28¾	28¾
Digital Equip	35¾	35¾
Dillard Dept St	27¾	27¾
Disney (Walt)	59¾	59¾
Dominion Res	36¾	37
Dresser Ind	34¾	34¾
Duke Power	64¾	65
Dun & Bradstreet	58¾	58¾
Du Pont	64¾	63¾
Eastman Kodak	52¾	52¾
Eaton Corp	53¾	53¾
Emerson Elec	69¾	67¾
Engelhard Corp	37¾	38¾

	Apr 6 midday	Apr 5 close
Enron Corp	33	33
Entergy	21¾	21¾
Exxon Corp	70¾	70¾
FMC Corp	60¾	60¾
FPL Group	37¾	37¾
Federal Express	69	67¾
Fed Nat Mtge	83¾	82¾
First Chicago	51

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

An investment that wasn't lost

ANYBODY who has ever been ushered on to the directors' floor at Barings cannot fail to have been impressed by the art and various historic items dotted around. But whatever will happen to it now that ING is in charge? Barings is keeping quiet about its most visual asset, carefully built up over many years and on which it would be difficult to put a price. John Orbell, the bank's art curator, says there is a "degree of uncertainty" over its future. Most of the hoard is 19th and 20th Century paintings displayed on the bank's top floor, but there is some sculpture and furniture. The bank did not own everything that hung on its walls. Some paintings were on loan from members of the Baring family. It may, therefore, be some weeks before the City hears whether a clutch of stunning Lowrys or Bacons are heading towards the West End and the salerooms.

Still painting

FROM art to artist. John Pawle, 40 years in the City and, until his retirement 15 years ago, a partner with Fielding Newson Smith, is proof that there really is life after the stock market. John, an accomplished artist, turns 80 on May 18 and will celebrate the occasion with an exhibition at the Portland Gallery, Bury Street. "I burst into the world with a passion for art", John says, "and although there were many artistically wasted years in the City, I did make good contacts." Good enough, in fact, to see his works hanging today at Robert Fleming, Charterhouse Group, James Capel, County NatWest, Morgan Grenfell and Prudential Assurance.



Plus ça change

TODAY Graham Turner Laing, the tall, debonair former senior partner, and latterly senior executive officer, retires from Raphael Zorn Hemsley after 40 years at the broker. His family firm, a founder member of the Stock Exchange as R Raphael & Sons, was a leading member of the syndicate organised by Bertram Currie of Glyn Mill, Gladstone's favourite banker, with Rothschild's backing, which rescued Barings after its first wobbly in 1890. It was noted then "of late, Messrs Baring Bros have been growing more speculative and have taken up business they ought to have rejected". How times don't change.

Bearing up

BARINGS may have gone to the dogs but Brammer has saved the hare from a worse fate. The Sittingbourne, Kent, branch of BSL, the Brammer-owned bearings distributor, has come to the rescue of the local greyhound track where the creaking mechanical hare was in danger of being disembowelled by the hounds. BSL, conveniently located near the track, was able to rush shiny new bearings to be fitted free of charge to the poor creature in time for the next race.

COLIN CAMPBELL


Sir Christopher Harding
British Nuclear Fuels




David Sainsbury
Chairman, Sainsburys


Lord Hollick
Chief Executive MAI


George Bain
London Business School

The brains behind Blair: the commission's key members cover a broad range of political opinion; business expertise is the common denominator

Labour shows it means to do business with business

A commission launched today will close the gap between Tony Blair and Britain's entrepreneurs, writes Philip Bassett

British business and the Labour Party will take a significant step towards each other today with the announcement of a high-powered commission on government-business relations — but the delicacy of the move will be underlined by the fact that Tony Blair's party will barely be mentioned.

In the august surroundings of the former Institute of Civil Engineers, just across the road from the Treasury, the left-leaning Institute for Public Policy Research will launch the Commission on Public Policy and British Business, which aims to do for wealth creation what the IPPR's Commission on Social Justice did for wealth distribution.

Everyone involved will stress the distance of the new commission from Labour, noting in particular that though the social justice commission was set up by John Smith when he was the party's leader, the new body carries no direct imprimatur from Mr Blair.

But the links are clearly there. The IPPR is widely seen as an external policy-making house for Labour, in much the same way as a range of right-wing think-tanks served the Conservative Party in the 1970s — an impression reinforced by the rapid transfer of David Milliband, one of its leading lights, to become Mr Blair's policy chief last year.

The origin of today's commission came from a breakfast discussion last year in Tokyo between Lord Hollick, a Labour peer who is chief executive of the international services firm MAI and who will serve on the commission, and a senior Labour figure who wanted a full-scale examination of British competitiveness, investment and productivity.

The commission's composition will be broad. It will be chaired by Professor George Bain, the widely respected principal of the London Business School, and will include among a host of luminaries David Sainsbury, head of the supermarket group, Professor Richard Layard of the London School of Economics, and Sir Christopher Harding, former chairman of British Nuclear Fuels and for 20 years a director of Hanson, one of the Conservative Party's biggest donors and most active business supporters.

"I don't even know the politics of most of the people involved," says one figure close to the new commission, "but most wouldn't even be serving on it if it was really closely linked to the Labour Party."

Whatever its linkage, Mr Blair is fully aware of today's move and is enthusiastic about it. When he addressed Labour's women's conference in Derby last weekend, the media seized on his claims that Labour was the party of law and order, the family and social responsibility in Britain; but what came next in his speech was significant, too. "The Labour Party," he declared, "is the party of modern business and industry in Britain."

The twin drivers of the new commission are clear. Labour needs a credible policy towards business, and business needs to know what it can expect from an incoming Labour government.

"Business wants to know who we are and where people will be in the next ten years," says a Labour insider. "But they don't want to be seen to be getting too close to us." One key business leader says of his industry colleagues: "Many of them have given up on this Government, and certainly feel that a Labour government could not be any worse, and could indeed be better."

Leaving aside today's announcement, business and Labour are already a good way down the track towards one another. Labour says its Industry Forum, revitalised when Jack Cunningham took over last year as the party's Shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, now has about 100 corporate members, with more joining every week. The forum is looking at a range of key industrial issues, including innovation, small firms, self-employment, construction, the utilities and the information superhighway.

> 'It's a great step forward to understand that wealth creation matters'

Business leaders are already welcoming even the first signs of a shift in Labour's policy for a training levy on industry, signalled this week by Harriet Harman, Shadow Employment Secretary. While Mr Blair woos business leaders at working breakfasts, Labour has been laying out policies aimed at attracting small business in particular — promising legislation if necessary on late payment, as well as tax incentives to promote the investment of retained earnings and a new business development bank for small companies.

"We're hugely encouraged by the very positive and very wide-ranging response we're getting from industry," says Dr Cunningham. "It's a good atmosphere and a strongly developing momentum."

Leaders of the Confederation of British Industry were consulted on today's commission, and will both welcome it today and give evidence to it when it begins work. While Howard Davies, director-general of the CBI, will not be a member of the commission, those setting it up were certainly interested in him being so. Indeed, CBI insiders reckon that probably close to half the agenda for this week's meeting of the CBI's governing council was Labour-driven in way or another — the minimum wage, training levies, the social chapter. The CBI has just completed an extensive analysis of the business impact of Labour's policies.

Some in business are more sceptical. Ann Robinson, policy head of the Institute of Directors, believes that even a Blair-led government will bow to internal pressure to put up barriers to entrepreneurialism. She is unconvinced by the industrial great and the good who will populate the new commission. "What do these people really know about running a small business somewhere near Birmingham, struggling to keep the company together? That's what wealth creation is all about," she says. But the IoD also sees value in today's launch. "It's a great step forward for the Labour Party," Dr Robinson says, "to understand that wealth creation matters."

Even Conservative ministers aren't wholly opposed to the commission. "Anything that exposes the Labour Party to real-life businessmen who have to take crucial decisions must be good," says Tim Eggar, the Industry Minister.

He remains unconvinced, however, about the business appeal of New Labour. "There is still among a lot of them a feeling that if you praise success in the private sector you are somehow trampling on the grave of socialism."

What will make the task of the new industry commission easier is that the ground rules of the relationship between business and government are now very different from the dirigiste 1980s — largely because of the changes brought about in a deft and mostly unnoticed way by Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade.

Though much derided at the time, last year's White Paper on competitiveness has significantly shifted the way Whitehall operates towards industry, and that move will be nudged along still further when Mr Heseltine publishes his second White Paper on the issue towards the end of next month.

No-one at the DTI, or around Mr Blair, or on today's commission, is interested in revisiting the largely sterile arguments about industrial policy that characterised the interventionist Labour of the 1960s and 1970s and non-interventionist Conservatism of the 1980s. Indeed, today's commission will build on much of the work on competitivness already done by the DTI, by the CBI, and by the Commons' all-party Trade and Industry Select Committee.

"This will not be about the social responsibility of business," says one insider close to the new commission. "It won't be talking about corporate governance or business ethics. This is about core business operations — the way industry works, and the way wealth is created."

Today's new business body will draw up a programme of work, commission research, call for and take evidence with the aim of producing new proposals for government policy towards business in about 18 months' time. While this may be handily timed for a general election, there is no intent to favour Labour.

"We would be delighted if every political party put our recommendations to their party conferences," an insider says. "It's important. It's significant. It's potentially useful. But it is emphatically not a surrogate for Labour's own thinking."

Business is unquestionably looking to the future as the election draws nearer. If Labour is that political future, then business wants to know what to expect.

Labour, in its famous "prawn cocktail" strategy of City lunches, has approached business before. But the new commission, especially in its arm's-length relationship with the party, is different. "The idea of the 'prawn cocktail' offensive was to show that we didn't mean harm," says one Blair colleague. "This goes beyond that: we want to show that we can do business with business."

The final fling in a troubled relationship

Carl Mortished examines the malaise in the commercial property market

A malaise is eating away at confidence in the commercial property market. Investment levels are down, rents are sluggish and values are again on the slide. Surveyors who last year confidently predicted rapid rises in central London rents due to an imminent shortage of space now privately wonder whether they spoke too soon.

Anecdotal evidence has been available for months: a paucity of deals in the property press and mutterings from bored agents that there is little stock in the market. Disappointing results from large property groups such as Slough Estates and Hammerson gave substance to the concern, followed this week by statistics from Richard Ellis, whose Monthly Index showed a fall of 2.1 per cent in UK property values in the year to March, with negative results for all sectors except retail warehouses.

Figures from Investment Property Databank, published today, point to the core of the problem: 40 per cent of all tenancies in the £45 billion of property measured by IPD were struck at rents above the market rate. Overrenting is a problem because it pushes back the day when an investor can expect a rental increase and it is most severe for landlords in central London. In the City, says IPD, the overrented top slice accounts for as much as 46 per cent of total rental income.

> Companies work staff harder rather than take more space

Property owners did well last year, says IPD, achieving an 11.6 per cent return compared to the dismal performance of bonds and shares which both delivered negative returns. A rush of new investment combined with optimistic predictions of an early end to overrenting led valuers to drive down yields and property prices rose accordingly.

Recent evidence suggests that rents are beginning to pull themselves out of the doldrums — Richard Ellis records a 0.2 per cent rise in its rental index, the first year-on-year rise since 1991 — but growth is proving much slower than investors anticipated a year ago. Big lettings of prestige buildings, such as BZW's deal this week at Canary Wharf, hide the reality of a property market built not on marbled banking halls but medium-sized companies in more modest buildings — and those companies are not in expansionist mood.

Angus McIntosh, director of research at Richard Ellis, points out that a quarter of the 2.84 million sq ft taken up in the first three months of the year was in two large deals. "Medium sized companies are not taking space. They prefer to work their staff a little harder than take more people on," he said.

Lack of confidence may be as much to blame as the new technology which is replacing clerical and back office staff in the City of London. While banks and building societies vacate their high street premises, other sectors appear similarly afflicted by extreme caution.

In spite of last year's bumper growth in GDP, industrial rents have fallen 3.9 per cent year on year, suggesting that manufacturers would rather streamline production and pay for longer shifts than invest in new plant and factories. None of this will be news for investors in property shares which came a cropper early last year as the bond markets crumbled. Since then, the six leading property stocks have been in virtual freefall as stockbrokers repeatedly lowered their expections of year-end asset values.

John Atkins, property analyst at UBS is again lowering his forecasts because of the poor outlook. "Rental growth is continuing to prove elusive. When investors sit down and look at what this means, they will see there will be precious little earnings and dividend growth for a number of years."

Last year, institutions pumped a net £2 billion into commercial property but investment is falling, from a peak of £1.2 billion in the second quarter to £121 million in the three months to December. Over the past 15 years, property has earned the funds an average return of 9.7 per cent, well below 12.8 per cent for gilts and 17.6 per cent for equities, and there are some who worry that 1994 may have been the final fling in a troubled relationship rather than a new love affair.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Lloyd's names paying for past

From Mr John Pincham

Sir, Lloyd's names, parting with fortunes to pay retrospectively imposed American asbestos and pollution claims under policies issued in the names of their deceased predecessors and which expired decades ago, should recognise that so preserving the "good name" of Lloyd's is only potentially advantageous to those continuing to trade (many with limited liability and ringfenced from the past) and the market professionals they must employ.

The acceptability of British, American and Bermudan insurance companies does not seem to be prejudiced by their general unwillingness to pay such claims not collectible from failed companies.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN PINCHAM,
County Councillor,
Claygate and Hinchley Wood,
35 Lodge Close,
Stoke D'Abernon,
Cobham,
Surrey.

We need lower taxation to finance investment

From the Director-General, Institute of Directors

Sir, Investment is the key to economic growth, says Gordon Brown (We need investment, not hollow tax cuts, April 5), but he seems blinkered to the correlation between the two.

Taxes, capital taxes in particular, nationalise private capital for governments to spend. As long as almost 40 per cent of GDP is taken in taxes, it is inevitable that there will be less money available for companies and individuals to invest.

Investment creates jobs. Jobs mean more people earning and paying taxes to the exchequer instead of taking it in benefits.

It is encouraging that the European Monetary Institute, a body which Mr Brown would no doubt support, appears to have got the message. "Continuous efforts towards reducing the size of the public sector are needed", it said in its report this week. Expressing concern about the tendency of governments throughout Europe to combine rising levels of public spending with ever higher rates of taxation, the institute warns that "this has adverse effects on the supply side of the economy and on the medium term growth prospects".

Mr Brown and the Chancellor of the Exchequer should take note and agree that the best way to encourage investment would be to start the process of reducing and then abolishing capital gains tax and inheritance tax and follow up with a rolling programme to reduce the burden of income tax.

Yours faithfully,
TIM MELVILLE-ROSS,
Director-General,
Institute of Directors (IoD),
116 Pall Mall,
SW1.

Bargain priced Nuclear Electric

From Mr David Green

Sir, Ross Tieman reports, "Stripped of its Magnox liabilities, Nuclear Electric, with five gas-cooled reactors and the new Sizewell B pressurised water plant, could fetch £2 billion" (April 1). Sounds like a bargain — for someone. As I recall it, Sizewell B on its own cost more than £2 billion.

Yours faithfully,
David Green,
Rhyd yr Harding,
Castle Morris,
Nr. Haverfordwest,
Letterston
Dyfed

Japan shows Britain the way

From Mr Cyril Sprake

Sir, The merger of Japan's Bank of Tokyo and Mitsubishi Bank to form the largest banking conglomerate in the world, demonstraites yet again that the successful Japanese do not subscribe to the market economy as espoused by the present administration of the United Kingdom. The chairmen said in a joint statement that the merger would not be used to make large-scale job cuts.

The Japanese in this instance and in many others, for example protecting small business vis-à-vis big business, take a holistic view of their economy.

If we do not learn this lesson in the UK, and business continues to see as its primary goal the cutting of the workforce, we will create a society in which life is not worth living; we will all be members of the underclass.

Make no mistake, given a decade or two technology can do, in a dehumanised fashion, virtually *all* the jobs; the discrepancies between female and male employment presently exercising some commentators are just an intermediate step in that process.

Yours faithfully,
C. H. S. SPRAKE,
17 Gloucester Road,
Hampton,
Middlesex.

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Admitting video tape evidence

Regina v Clare
Regina v Peach

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Owen and Judge Sir Lawrence Verney

[Judgment April 6]

A police constable who studied video recordings some 40 times of a brief incident which was the aftermath of a football match between Bolton Wanderers and West Bromwich Albion in September 1991, was an expert ad hoc in the traditional category of those qualified to give opinion evidence and had special knowledge that the court did not possess, so that his evidence identifying two men engaged in violent disorder was properly admissible.

If admitting such evidence seemed unfamiliar and an extension of established evidential practice, the answer had to be that, as technology developed, evidential practice would need to be evolved to accommodate it. While the courts had to be vigilant to ensure that no unfairness resulted, they should not block steps which enabled the jury to gain full assistance from the technology.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment when dismissing appeals by Richard Clare, aged 25, and Nicholas William Peach, aged 26, from conviction at Bolton Crown Court (Judge Nigel Howarth and a jury) of violent disorder contrary to section 2 of the Public Order Act 1986. Clare was sentenced to 80 hours community service and ordered to pay £600 towards prosecution costs. Peach received a one month prison sentence.

Mr R. J. B. Green, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellants; Mr N. H. Simmonds for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appellants were West Bromwich supporters. After the match at Bolton, a brief fracas flared up between supporters of the two clubs amounting to violent disorder. The incident was brief and recorded in black and white by three video cameras affixed to buildings nearby.

The Crown alleged that Peach raised both arms two or three times signalling other West Bromwich fans to advance towards Bolton fans some 20 yards or so ahead. When the incident was over Peach again raised his hands in the air.

Essentially the evidence on which the Crown relied was the black and white video recording, which was available to be played to the jury. However, because the incident was brief and there were many supporters and other members of the public milling about and creating a confused scene, what was actually being done and who was doing it could only be discerned by close study.

Police Constable Fitzpatrick had studied the film closely and analytically. He, together with a colleague, had filmed supporters in good quality colour arriving at the football ground, when they were in the stadium and as they left.

PC Fitzpatrick had viewed the recordings of the incident about 40 times. He had been able to examine it in slow motion, frame by frame, rewinding and playing as frequently as he needed. By so studying the film he was able to follow the movements of individuals and see what actions they took.

By comparing the individuals performing violent acts with the colour pictures, he claimed to be able to identify not only the violent acts in the street but who was committing them.

The Crown sought to adduce his evidence in order to elucidate for the benefit of the jury what could be seen on the video recording.

Neither appellant gave evidence. The main ground of appeal related to PC Fitzpatrick's evidence. He did not know the appellants before that day.

As to the general admissibility of evidence aimed at interpreting what the jury could see on a film or purporting to identify actors on the film, their Lordships had been told that there were no English authorities. They had, however, been referred to Commonwealth authorities.

His Lordship considered *R v Leaney* ([1987] 38 CCC 3d 263); *R v Steele* ([1992 SLT 847) and *R v Howe* ([1983] 1 NZLR 618) and said that the phrase, from *Howe* "expert ad hoc" sought to put witnesses like PC Fitzpatrick into the traditional category of those qualified to give expert opinion evidence. Whether or not the tag was appropriate, their Lordships were clearly of the view that PC Fitzpatrick had, as stated in *Leaney* "special knowledge that the court did not possess".

Accordingly, it was legitimate to allow him to assist the jury by pointing to what he asserted was happening in the crowded scenes on the film. He was open to cross-examination and the jury, after a proper direction and warnings, were free either to accept or reject his assertions.

His identifications were, their Lordships agreed with *Howe*: "no more secondary evidence than any oral identification made from a photograph".

If admitting such evidence seemed unfamiliar and an extension of established evidential practice, the answer had to be that, as technology developed, evidential practice would need to be evolved to accommodate it.

While the courts had to be vigilant to ensure that no unfairness resulted, they should not block steps which enabled the jury to gain full assistance from the technology.

The appeals were dismissed.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Manchester.

Dual meaning of 'obstruction'

Carey v Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset

Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice Hutchison

[Judgment April 6]

A wide construction was to be adopted to the term "obstruction" in the removal of vehicles regulations and was applied to a vehicle obstructing persons who were using or who could be expected to use the road and was not confined to whether the vehicle occupied and impeded the highway.

The Court of Appeal so held when allowing the appeal of Mr Gary Peter Carey from the dismissal on May 13, 1993, by Judge Wigmore in Bristol County Court of his claim for damages and declaratory and injunctive relief against the Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset arising out of an incident on February 11, 1992, when police officers towed away Mr Carey's converted coach and family home from the position it had occupied for some considerable time in Bristol for causing an obstruction to persons using the road within the meaning of regulation 3(1)(a) of the Removal and Disposal of vehicles Regulations (SI 1986 No 183).

Regulation 3 provides: "(1) ... this regulation applies to a vehicle which (a) has broken down, or been permitted to remain at rest, on a road in such a position or in such condition or in such circumstances as to cause obstruction to persons using the road or as to be likely to cause danger to such persons."

Mr Ian Glen for Mr Carey; Mr Peter Wadsley for the chief constable.

LORD JUSTICE HUTCHISON said that the regulations did not create an offence in relation to the leaving of a vehicle on a road but empowered a constable to require the removal of, or himself remove, vehicles to which regulation 3 applied.

Section 137 of the Highways Act 1980 and section 103 of the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations (SI 1986 No 078) created offences in connection with the obstruction of highways and roads.

An obstruction for the purposes of section 137 was established by proof that any part of the highway had been obstructed so as to deny access by the public to that part and, to constitute an offence, that obstruction had to be wilful, without lawful excuse and constitute an unreasonable use of the highway.

The words "position", "condition" and "such circumstances as to cause" were all words in regulation 3(1)(a) which qualified "obstruction" and had no reference to user of the highway. The presence of those words directed attention to the considerations to be borne in mind when determining whether the vehicle was an obstruction.

His Lordship could well understand why, if section 137 and the 1986 construction regulations meaning of "obstruction" was to be adopted in construing the 1986 removal regulations, counsel for the chief constable felt impelled to argue, and the judge to hold, that the removal regulations contained a requirement that there should be an unreasonable use of the highway or road.

To attribute to Parliament an intention to give such arbitrary powers of removal as, without such a qualification, that meaning of "obstruction" in the removal regulations gave to the police was repugnant.

However, that implication was unjustified and would defeat the obvious intent of those regulations to permit the removal, in cases of actual obstruction of vehicles which could well be an obstruction not involving unreasonable use of the highway.

The absence of any qualification as to reasonableness was a strong pointer to the conclusion that "obstruction" in the removal regulations did not bear the same meaning as in the other provisions mentioned.

It meant an obstruction to the use of the road by persons who were using or might be expected to use it.

A wide construction was proper, that the words "obstruction to persons using the road" in regulation 3(1)(a) meant "obstruction to persons who were or might be expected to be using the road".

It therefore permitted the removal not only of any vehicle which was actually obstructing a road user but also of a vehicle which was so positioned as to obstruct a road user whose arrival at the place where the vehicle was could be expected, such as a bus due in half an hour or a large lorry which in the ordinary course of events could be expected sooner or later to use the road.

The essential requirement, however, for the exercise of removal was that the vehicle should not merely be occupying part of a highway and thus impeding the free access of members of the public to every part of the highway but that it should be considered to be obstructing the passage of road users along the highway: hindering or preventing them from getting past.

That, of course, involved a judgment on the part of the police officer concerned, who had to make an assessment of the extent to which that vehicle in that road constituted an obstruction to the passage of users of that road.

The judge was therefore wrong to equate the meaning of "obstruction" under regulation 3 with its meaning in section 137 and regulation 103 of the construction regulations.

Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Morritt agreed.

Solicitors: Bobbetts Mackan, Bristol; Mr Basil Smith, Bristol.

Using dead victim's statement

Regina v Sinclair (Beverley)

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Owen and Sir Lawrence Verney

[Judgment March 14]

Where the victim of an attack by the appellant died four days afterwards and before the appellant was committed for trial, the victim's statement was admissible in evidence at the trial.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing an appeal by Beverley Sinclair, aged 25, from conviction by a 10 to 2 majority at Wood Green Crown Court (Judge Graham, QC and a jury) of assault with intent to rob a woman aged 90, for which a six-year prison sentence was imposed, concurrent with a three-year sentence for burglary on a plea of guilty.

Mr Simon Farrell, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Anthony Fogg for the Crown.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that, unknown to the committing justices, the victim had died from a stroke four days afterwards and a full witness order was made for her.

The statement she had made and signed described the attack and the appellant, whose fingerprint was found in the house. The statement was with the committal documents and the judge rejected a submission that it should not be admitted.

The only ground of appeal was that the statement was inadmissible since the provision for admissibility in section 106(1) of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 was of "a written statement by any person" that "person" contemplated a person alive and available to give evidence, and the victim was not, therefore, a person at the time of the committal and not at the time of trial.

Their Lordships could not accept the proposition. There was no reason to qualify the statutory words by inserting the word "living" to qualify the word person, or by adding any such phrase as "if alive at the time".

When the statement was made the victim was a person, the statement was made by that person, and it was signed by that person. Accordingly, the trial judge was correct in rejecting the defence submission. The appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: CPS, London.

State liability for maternity leave payment

Clark v Secretary of State for Employment

Before Mr Justice Mummery, Miss J. W. Collerson and Lord Gladwyn of Clee

[Judgment March 10]

A woman who was on maternity leave when her employer became insolvent was entitled to payment out of the National Insurance Fund by the Secretary of State for Employment of a sum equivalent to the pay in lieu of notice she would have received from her employer on dismissal.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal so held when allowing an appeal by the applicant, Mrs Angela Clark, from the dismissal by a Birmingham industrial tribunal in February 1992, of her application for the payment of a sum equal to 12 weeks pay in lieu of notice, pursuant to section 122 of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978.

The industrial tribunal had held that the applicant had failed to bring herself within any of the conditions set out in paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 3 to the 1978 Act under which an employer was obliged to pay notice money.

The appeal tribunal considered a point not argued before the industrial tribunal that article 119 of the EC Treaty gave her an independent right to payment and held that although the industrial tribunal's construction of the 1978 Act was correct it was contrary to article 119 which prevailed in the event of inconsistency.

Section 122 specified debts of an employer for which the secretary of state was liable on insolvency and included an amount which the employer was liable to pay the employee for a period of notice.

Paragraph 2 of Schedule 3 provides: "(1) If ... (a) the employee is ready and willing to work but no work is provided for him by his employer or (b) the employee is incapable of work because of sickness or injury ... the employer shall be liable" to pay the employee a notice payment.

Article 119 defines "pay" as "the ordinary basic or minimum wages or salary and any other consideration ... which the worker receives, directly or indirectly, in respect of his employment from his employer."

Mr John Cavanagh for the applicant; Miss Eleanor Sharpston for the secretary of state.

MR JUSTIVE MUMMERY said that resolution of the issue affected a number of cases pending before industrial tribunals, although paragraph 2 of Schedule 3 had been amended for future cases by the Trade Union Reform and Employment Rights Act 1993, to include an employee who was absent because of pregnancy.

The applicant started maternity leave on December 3, 1990 and was paid 90 per cent of her normal weekly wage. On January 16, 1991 the company went into liquidation and her employment terminated. The baby was born on January 21.

The applicant claimed from the secretary of state under section 122 of the Act a sum the equivalent of 12 weeks pay in lieu of notice which she was entitled to receive from her employer on dismissal.

The secretary of state refused payment on the ground that section 122 did not apply. The industrial tribunal upheld the refusal on the ground that the applicant was not ready or willing to work and she was not incapable of work because of sickness under Schedule 3.

The effect of decisions of the Court of Justice of the European Communities on the scope of "pay" in article 119 was that it included payments on or after the termination of employment which would include payment in lieu of notice; that a payment pursuant to a statutory obligation could be "pay" as a payment to an employee by someone other than the employer such as a trustee or an administrator of a pension fund.

The applicant was entitled to invoke article 119 directly. Sums payable by an employer to an employee for failing to give notice were "pay" within the meaning of article 119 even though the payment was to be made by the secretary of state.

The principle of equal pay contained in article 119 was breached by the failure of the 1978 Act to extend the benefits of that Act to women absent from work by reason of pregnancy and confinement. The effect of those provisions was to treat women absent from work because of pregnancy less favourably than other employees absent from work through no fault of their own.

That was direct discrimination on the ground of sex. Article 119 therefore prevailed and paragraph 2 of Schedule 3 to the 1978 Act was to be read as if it applied to women employees absent from work because of pregnancy.

The discriminatory effect of the provisions of the 1978 Act had to be set aside and there should be applied to persons in the disadvantaged group of women absent from work because of pregnancy and childbirth the same advantages as were enjoyed by persons in the favoured class. The appeal would be allowed.

Solicitors: T. H. M. Tinsdills, Stoke on Trent; Treasury Solicitor.

Abuse issue is for judge to decide

Pentagin Technologies International Ltd v Express Company Secretaries Ltd

Issues as to whether or not a petition to wind up a company was an abuse of process of the court and whether a debt was disputed in good faith and on substantial grounds were for the judge in the Companies Court to decide and the Court of Appeal should be reluctant to take a different view.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Hirst and Sir Ralph Gibson) so stated on March 10 when dismissing an appeal by a petitioner, Pentagin Technologies International Ltd, from the decision of Mr Justice Mummery on December 18, 1992 that it was not entitled to present a petition to wind up Express Company Secretaries Ltd.

LORD JUSTICE MUMMERY said that the judge held that Pentagin was not a creditor within the meaning of section 124 of the Insolvency Act 1986 and thus had no locus standi to present a petition.

The judge had expressed the view that the petition was an abuse of the process of the court as it never stood a chance of succeeding.

The claim, he found, was the subject of substantial High Court proceedings that were disputed in good faith and on substantial grounds. Those were questions for the judge's decision.

The Court of Appeal should be very reluctant to take a different view from judges sitting in the Companies Court on such issues.

No council conflict of interest

Regina v Hereford and Worcester County Council, Ex parte Wellington Parish Council

Before Mr Justice Harrison

[Judgment March 15]

A county council planning subcommittee decision to grant planning permission for a public gypsy site when several members of the council committee that had proposed the site were also on the planning subcommittee was made validly if, as in the present case, the members had not wrongly influenced the subcommittee decision.

Mr Justice Harrison so held in the Queen's Bench Division in refusing the application of Wellington Parish Council for certiorari to quash the decision of Hereford and Worcester County Council of May 23, 1994 that planning permission would be granted for a public gypsy site in Auberrow in Herefordshire.

Miss Beverley Lang for Wellington Parish Council; Mr David Mole, QC and Mr David Park for Hereford and Worcester County Council.

MR JUSTICE HARRISON said that predisposition in favour of a proposal should not of itself prevent a member from sitting on a planning committee if that predisposition arose from the performance of his council duties.

The test in *R v Gough* that there had been an injustice where there was a real danger of bias did not have any application in the current circumstances because if it did the administration of local government would become extremely difficult.

Cases such as *Hannam v Bradford Corporation* ([1970] 1 WLR 937) involving the intermixture of functions had only limited application to cases such as the present one where there was an overlapping of function. The mere duality of function does not of itself vitiate the decision.

The applicants had not shown that any of the three councillors who were members of both the gypsy group and the planning subcommittee had acted in such a way as to show that they had closed minds and were unable to consider the proposal on its planning merits.

If they had done so, his Lordship would have had little difficulty in concluding that they would have wrongly influenced the decision of the subcommittee. It had not been shown that what happened was procedurally unfair or otherwise in breach of the rules of natural justice.

Solicitors: Cornell & Co, Leominster; Mr Stephen Doye, Worcester.

Petition struck out because debt dispute genuine

In re Company No 00212 of 1995

Before Mr Justice Rattee

[Judgment February 8]

Where a company's disputed debt was found to be bona fide on substantial grounds at the time of the presentation of a creditor's petition for the winding-up of the company, the correct course was to strike out the petition, whether the company was, or was not solvent at the time.

Mr Justice Rattee so held in the Chancery Division in the case of a company owning a block of flats in west London. The company was itself owned by the long lessees and managed the block on their behalf, with the tenants paying the service charges.

Mr Michael Daiches for the company; Mr Robert Hollington for the petitioning creditor.

MR JUSTICE RATTEE said that when in 1993 substantial repairs to the flats became necessary, the company entered into a building contract with the petitioner which was later suspended and then terminated, the petitioner being given the right to issue an interim certificate for the value of the work done under the contract and money due.

Payment of the alleged debt being outstanding, the petitioner served first a statutory demand for payment followed by a petition for the winding-up of the company on the ground that it was unable to pay its debts.

At the hearing it was belatedly admitted by the petitioner that there was a genuine dispute as to what money was due, according to the certificate, and that the demand for the money itself would not support a winding-up petition.

The several grounds on which the company disputed liability included the amount of the preliminary site fees, the costs of dismantling scaffolding, and compensation for defects occurring in the construction works; there was also a matter regarding an assignment of a debt due from Westminster City Council to the petitioner.

The petitioner denied that the several grounds of dispute gave rise to a bona fide dispute on substantial grounds in relation to those shown on the certificate. It relied on *In re R. A. Foulds Ltd* ([1986] 2 BCC 99,269), where the company concerned asserted a cross-claim in respect of the debt claimed by the petitioner.

However, his Lordship said the decision in that case was reconcilable with *In re a Company No 003729 of 1982* ([1984] 1 WLR 1090) which related to a petitioner's locus standi as a creditor where part of the debt claimed on which the petition was based was paid after the presentation of the petition.

In his Lordship's judgment the present case was of the latter type rather than the former, and a fortiori so, for, in the present case, the amount of the certificate purportedly issued in accordance with the agreement was disputed on grounds found to be substantial grounds bona fide raised by the company.

Inevitably, therefore there was at the date when the petition was presented no undisputed debt in existence which could properly support a winding-up petition at the behest of the creditor.

The creditor had also referred to evidence which would cast doubt on the company's solvency.

The company said it was not insolvent but that in any event it relied on *Mann v Goldstein* ([1968] 1 WLR 1091) where it was decided that the petition in that case should be struck out regardless of the company's solvency or lack of it.

Accordingly, the correct course to take in the present case was to strike out the petition because at the date of its presentation, and indeed now, there was a bona fide dispute between the parties on substantial grounds.

Solicitors: Edward Lewis & Co; Peacock & Co, Wimbledon.

Non-lawyers might be less precise in language

Regina v Newcastle-under-Lyme Magistrates Court, Ex parte Cloudside Outdoor Pursuits Ltd

Before Mr Justice Turner

[Judgment December 9]

While lay justices were advised by clerks as to matters of law their decisions and reasons should not be approached expecting the same degree of accuracy which a lawyer might adopt.

Mr Justice Turner so stated in the Queen's Bench Division sitting at Bristol when dismissing an application by Cloudside Outdoor Pursuits Ltd for judicial review of the decision of the Newcastle-under-Lyme Justices on January 5, 1993 assessing the applicant's entitlement to costs in following its successful action to quash an abatement notice. The justices had disallowed the costs of leading counsel who had represented the applicants at the substantive hearing.

Mr Winston Hunter for the applicants; Mr Jeremy Morgan for the local authority.

MR JUSTICE TURNER said, distinguishing the case of *R v Dudley Magistrates' Court, Ex parte Power City Stores Ltd* ([1990] 154 JP 654) on which the applicants had relied, that the costs sought to be recovered in that case were pursuant to the provisions of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985, not as in the present case, the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980.

The question was not in regard to compensation, see section 16(6) of the 1985 Act, but rather whether or not, as between the paying party and the receiving party, it was reasonable that the former should pay and the latter receive an amount in respect of the costs in question: see section 64 of the 1980 Act.

In relation to the justices' decision his Lordship cited Lord Browne-Wilkinson in *R v Governors of the Bishop Challoner Roman Catholic Comprehensive Girls' School, Ex parte Choudhury* ([1992] 2 AC 182, 197): "the court should not intervene just because the reasons given, if strictly construed, may disclose an error of law. The jurisdiction to quash a decision only exists where there has in fact been an error of law. Moreover, the court should not approach decisions and reasons given by committees of laymen expecting the same degree of accuracy in the use of language which a lawyer might adopt."

The underlying good sense of that passage was equally apt to apply to the decisions of lay justices albeit they would have been advised by their clerk as to matters of law.

In the present case the correct approach was that adopted by Mr Justice Judge in *R v Southend Stipendiary Magistrate, Ex parte Rochford District Council* (*The Times* May 10, 1994) that unless the decision were perverse in the sense that no reasonable magistrates' court could have concluded that the assessment of costs was just and reasonable, the court could not set it aside. The justices had properly reached their conclusion.

Solicitors: Beresh & Co, Manchester; Mr F. Harley, Newcastle-under-Lyme.

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No person receiving a copy of this offer notice and Application Form in any territory other than the United Kingdom may treat the same as constituting an invitation or offer to him nor should he in any event use such Application Form, unless, in the relevant territory, such an invitation or offer could lawfully be made to him or such Application Form could lawfully be used without contravention of any registration or other legal requirements. It is the responsibility of any person outside the United Kingdom wishing to make an application hereunder to satisfy himself as to full observance of the laws of any relevant territory in connection therewith, including obtaining any requisite governmental or other consents, observing any other formalities requiring to be observed in such territory and paying any issue, transfer or other taxes required to be paid in such territory.

Completed Applications

An Application Form in respect of the Offers for Subscription is set out opposite and a guide on how to complete it is set out below. Completed Application Forms should be returned by post or delivered by hand to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Securities Services – Registrars, Owen House, 8 Bankhead Crossway North, Edinburgh EH11 4BR, or by hand to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Securities Services – Registrars, 67 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3DL, in each case so as to be received not later than 10.00 a.m. on 20 April 1995.

NOTES ON HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM
All applicants must complete Boxes 1, 2, 3 and 4

1. PERSONAL DETAILS
Fill in (in block capitals) in Box 1 the full name and address of the applicant. If this application is being made jointly with other persons, please read Note 6 before completing Box 1. For company applications, please give the registered name and number of the company

2. APPLICATION TO DUMYAT INVESTMENT TRUST PLC
Fill in (in figures) in either/both boxes in section 2 the number of ADS and/or MDS for which you wish to apply. The initial application must be for a minimum of 3,000 Ordinary Shares, and thereafter all applicants may apply in multiples of 1 Ordinary Share

3. AMOUNT PAYABLE
Fill in (in figures) in Box 3 the total amount payable at 100p per Ordinary Share

4. SIGNATURE
The applicant named in Box 1 must date and sign Box 4. The Application Form may be signed by another person on your behalf if that person is duly authorised to do so under a power of attorney. The power of attorney (or a copy duly certified by a solicitor) must be enclosed for inspection. A company should sign under the hand of a duly authorised official, whose representative capacity must be stated.

5. PAYMENT
Pin a cheque or banker's draft at Box 5 for the exact amount shown in Box 3. Your cheque or banker's draft must be made payable to "The Royal Bank of Scotland plc a/c Dumyat Offer" and crossed "a/c Payee Only". Your payment must relate solely to this application. No receipt will be issued. Your cheque or banker's draft must be drawn in sterling on an account at a bank branch in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man and must bear a United Kingdom bank sort code number in the top right hand corner. If you do not have a cheque account, you can obtain a cheque from your building society or bank branch. An application may be accompanied by a cheque drawn by someone other than the applicant(s), but any monies returned will be sent by cheque crossed "a/c Payee Only" in favour of the first-named applicant. Please ensure that you have sufficient funds in your bank account as cheques may be presented immediately.

6. JOINT APPLICANTS
You may apply jointly with up to three other persons. Boxes 1, 2, 3 and 4 must be completed by one applicant. All other persons who wish to join in the application must complete and sign one of the boxes at section 6. Another person may sign on behalf of any joint applicant if that other person is duly authorised to do so under a power of attorney. The power of attorney (or a copy duly certified by a solicitor) must be enclosed for inspection. Certificates for the Ordinary Shares, cheques and other correspondence will be sent to the address in Box 1.

APPLICATION FORM
DUMYAT INVESTMENT TRUST PLC

Applications and cheques or banker's drafts must be received by 10.00 a.m. on 20 April 1995. Please send the completed form by post or deliver it by hand to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Securities Services — Registrars, 8 Bankhead Crossway North, Edinburgh EH11 4BR or deliver it by hand only to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Securities Services — Registrars, 67 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3DL.

PERSONAL DETAILS — BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

1 Title: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other
Full Forenames
Surname
Permanent Address
Postcode

2 I/We offer to acquire [ ] ADS and/or [ ] MDS in DUMYAT INVESTMENT TRUST PLC (or any smaller number of such shares for which this application is accepted) in each case at the price of 100p per share on the terms and subject to the conditions set out in the Listing Particulars dated 5 April 1995 and subject to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of Dumyat Investment Trust PLC.

3 I/We attach a cheque or banker's draft made payable to "The Royal Bank of Scotland plc a/c Dumyat Offer", crossed "a/c Payee Only" for £ [ ]

4 Signature Date April 1995

5 [ ] Pin your cheque or banker's draft here.

6 For joint applications please complete the following.

SECOND JOINT HOLDER
Title: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other
Full Forenames
Surname
Permanent Address
Postcode
Signature

THIRD JOINT HOLDER
Title: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other
Full Forenames
Surname
Permanent Address
Postcode
Signature

FOURTH JOINT HOLDER
Title: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other
Full Forenames
Surname
Permanent Address
Postcode
Signature

(If you have a financial adviser, you should consult him before investing)

UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

ABI UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
01895 259 765

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Dividend Accum	162.20	171.70	+ 0.10	0.21
Dividend Equity	237.40	252.00	+ 0.10	2.10
Dividend Income	202.00	213.70	+ 1.20	0.50
Dividend Euro	150.80	112.30	-	2.80
Dividend Exp Inc	76.30	79.40	- 0.10	5.99
Dividend Gth	73.15	77.50	+ 0.20	-
Dividend Japan	152.40	161.30	+ 0.20	-

ABN EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
01268 853 234

General Acc	541.70	575.30z	+ 3.90	2.39
General Inc	472.30	502.00z	+ 3.10	2.90
UK Growth Acc	365.10	388.50	+ 2.30	2.95
UK Growth Inc	348.90	365.90	+ 2.60	2.95
Higher Inc Acc	674.30	717.30	+ 3.90	4.12
Higher Inc Inc	588.70	414.50	+ 2.30	4.12
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	197.80	198.30z	+ 0.20	5.98
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	88.70z	94.31z	+ 0.11	5.98
Nth America	207.80	204.90	+ 0.90	-
Far East	362.40	353.70	+ 0.80	0.19
Europe	372.80	396.00z	+ 3.50	1.19
Int Equity	72.61	77.25	+ 0.57	0.09
Int Fxd Int Acc	101.40	107.30z	+ 0.50	4.89
Int Fxd Int Inc	72.80	77.30z	+ 0.66	4.89
Global Opps	83.20	88.64	+ 0.66	0.57
Balanced Acc	54.07	57.50	+ 0.34	3.15
Balanced Inc	52.40	55.70	+ 0.34	3.15

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
0345 717 373

High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	128.80	134.90t	- 0.20	7.45
High Inc Equity	157.20	168.30t	+ 0.10	4.56
Worldwide Bond	203.80	208.50	+ 1.20	4.49
Capital Growth				
American Growth	279.40	295.10	- 0.40	00
Asian Pacific	282.50	310.60t	- 0.60	-
Assets & Earnings	253.30	271.50	+ 0.11	2.09
Commdty & Energy	99.82	106.30t	+ 1.20	.12
Euro Capital Inc	132.40	141.80t	+ 1.70	.00
(Accum Units)	142.10	151.90t	+ 1.90	.00
General	205.30	219.60t	+ 2.50	1.57
Japan	133.30	119.80	+ 1.40	2.24
Nederland	135.80	145.20t	+ 0.30	1.96
UK Growth Dist	116.80	110.30t	+ 0.40	3.25
US Emerging Cos	139.20	148.90t	+ 0.80	-
Income & Growth	134.90	144.30t	+ 0.80	3.09
Pacific	92.41	97.44	+ 0.54	2.97
Property Shares	59.51	63.47	+ 0.01	1.98
UK Emerging Cos	43.04	45.89t	+ 0.23	2.57
UK Growth	79.87	72.28	+ 0.51	2.57
Wor World Perf #	70.97	72.28	+ 0.51	2.57
Ethical	69.30	73.07	+ 0.18	2.80
Aberdeen Gth Inc #	48.00	49.80t	+ 0.03	7.65

AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD
0131 549 3232

British Growth	69.53	72.90t	+ 0.06	3.00
British Income	76.03	84.02t	+ 0.06	3.79
Euro Income	92.58	97.35t	+ 0.55	-

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
01452 505 858

Equity Income	72.83	77.30t	+ 0.15	2.66
Income Builder Inc	67.73	72.05	+ 0.05	3.05

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
FA dlg: 01708 610 358 Client dlgs: 01708 514 914

Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	225.70	240.20t	+ 1.30	3.23
Capital	395.30	422.50t	+ 2.10	1.58
Balanced	669.60	715.80t	+ 2.30	2.78
Accumulation	812.44	913.29	+ 6.00	3.05
Income Trusts				
American Income	47.79	51.06	- 0.13	3.48
High Income	385.60	412.20t	+ 2.20	3.75
Equity Income	297.80	318.30t	+ 1.40	3.55
High Yield	237.86	253.90	+ 1.30	3.43
Gilt Securities	92.31	94.10t	- 0.06	6.22
International Trusts				
Asian Spec Sits	148.20	158.20t	+ 0.20	0.45
European Growth	29.43	35.02	+ 0.18	0.91
Japanese	152.10	162.50t	+ 0.40	0.11
Japan	185.48	197.98t	+ 0.90	0.51
Pacific	359.80	371.20	+ 1.70	0.71
Secs of America	434.70	452.00t	+ 1.00	0.51
Wrldwide Appr Val	45.98	48.15	+ 0.06	0.24
Specialised Trusts				
Asset Value	518.40	554.10t	+ 2.40	2.39
Cover & Gth	42.66	44.98	+ 0.13	5.18
Enable Cos	160.95	171.95	+ 0.78	1.39
Ind Smaller Cos	151.70	162.10t	+ 0.10	1.50
Recovery	134.00	143.20	+ 0.40	1.76
Mid Mkt & Oily	147.60	157.10	+ 1.50	1.74
Opps Earnings	545.80	583.20t	+ 1.70	1.84
Technology	157.30	168.10	- 1.30	0.01
UK Special Sits	448.70	479.60t	+ 2.40	1.91

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
01800 526 911

Capital Dist Prns	97.02	103.80	-	3.04
Income Dist Prns	59.66	62.31	-	1.44

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 600 0833

Capital	70.71	75.28	+ 0.41	2.15
International	60.16	63.94	-	-

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
0131 222 4242

Americas	266.39	277.09	- 0.29	-
Asian	118.50	126.40	+ 0.30	7.10
Bond	84.85	349.60	+ 0.02	0.05
Japan Smlr Cos	69.67	67.10z	+ 0.40	0.05
Dlsr & Gtn #	272.70	284.40	+ 0.70	0.62
Europe	255.40	266.20	+ 0.40	4.45
Gilt & Fxd Int	107.50	109.20	+ 0.10	-
Income Gwth	328.30	348.30t	+ 0.40	-
Japan	148.40	154.70	+ 0.32	1.48
Latin American	76.57	81.53	+ 0.01	-
Pacific	98.42	104.70	-	1.47
Property Shares	58.51	58.91	+ 0.02	1.48
UK Emerging Cos	43.04	45.89t	+ 0.23	2.57
UK Growth	79.87	72.28	+ 0.51	2.57
Wor World Perf #	70.97	72.28	+ 0.51	2.57
Ethical	69.30	73.07	+ 0.18	2.80
Aberdeen Gth Inc #	48.00	49.80t	+ 0.03	7.65

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
01771 488 8578

Int & Opptun	271.60	285.90	-	1.29
Irish Growth	108.60	112.20	-	2.56
Irish Income	171.20	180.30	-	0.44

BARCLAYS STOCKCARD
0161 834 5544

Balanced Trusts				
Bal Inc Fd Inc	336.40	352.50	-	3.18
Exchange Bd Inc	86.28	90.80	-	2.76
Earnings	72.58	77.42	+ 0.06	4.32
Financial	73.70	78.50	+ 0.28	2.51
Growth	420.70	448.90t	-	2.76
Gilt & Fxd Int	264.30	283.00t	-	5.51
General	264.20	285.40	-	2.52
Property	177.10	189.70	+ 0.90	2.52
Taxstar				
Income Trusts				
Small Cos Inc	160.16	160.16t	-	5.44
Extra Income	113.10	121.00t	+ 0.39	5.84
Gilt & Fxd Int	84.85	90.85	+ 0.07	5.84
Income Builder	145.66	155.90	+ 0.50	4.24
Int Income	69.06	63.90z	+ 0.06	5.08
Growth Trusts - UK	59.73	63.94	+ 0.14	3.79
Capital	114.50	122.20	+ 0.40	2.67
Income	120.10	128.40	+ 0.50	1.68
Recovery	482.70	496.70	+ 1.70	2.52
Small Cos Inc	41.06	44.70	+ 0.09	1.89
Special Sits	275.60	294.80	+ 0.80	0.57
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
American	125.60	132.90	- 0.10	0.00
Asia Pacific	231.50	246.50	- 0.70	2.16
Asset Acc	142.40	151.50	+ 1.30	1.25
Asset Inc	145.40	154.30	+ 1.30	1.25
Euro Gwth Inc	124.80	165.10	+ 1.40	-
(Accum Units)	156.80	166.90	+ 1.70	-
Japan & Gen Inc	160.80	170.10t	+ 0.90	-
(Accum Units)	162.50	172.80t	+ 0.90	-
Japan Spec Sits	74.72	79.50	+ 0.53	0.00
Shr Tech Inc	77.12	81.90	+ 0.50	1.06
Worldwide	160.40	170.50	+ 0.60	-

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
0171 214 1004

American Growth	92.84	97.58	+ 0.28	-
Asian Growth	128.40	135.00	+ 0.80	-
Asset Strat Cau	52.02	55.49t	+ 0.13	5.70
Convertibles	249.90	266.20	+ 0.43	0.39
Dividend	84.58	91.36	+ 0.35	0.99
Equity Income	293.60	311.50t	+ 2.00	0.50
European Growth	214.50	228.10	+ 2.00	0.50
Europe	71.77	76.05	+ 0.19	0.95
Far East Growth	62.62	66.90	+ 0.19	-
Global Bond	121.00	123.80	+ 0.01	-
Global Growth	173.20	183.80	+ 0.70	-
Japan Growth	148.00	155.60	+ 0.70	-
Japan Income	73.50	81.60	+ 0.32	-
Korea Trust	125.80	134.70	+ 0.50	-
Pacific Growth	118.50	126.80	+ 0.70	-
(Accum Units)	121.80	130.40	+ 0.70	-
UK Growth	149.00	159.50	+ 0.60	-
UK Income	73.50	81.60	+ 0.32	-
Extra Income	251.40	267.54	+ 0.01	1.84
Financial Trust	125.80	134.70	+ 0.50	-
Recovery	98.42	105.40	+ 0.32	1.48
Special Sits	247.90	265.50	+ 0.90	0.27
Technology	157.90	168.10	- 1.30	0.01
UK Special Sits	448.70	479.60t	+ 2.40	1.91

BERRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
01481 726 221

Channel Islands	70.71	75.28	+ 0.41	2.15
Int'l Equity Pnt Inc	60.16	63.94	-	-

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD
0141 223 0020

Balanced Growth	163.36	169.37t	- 1.36	1.97
(Accum Units)	117.35	124.67	- 1.38	1.97
Cash Fund	101.44	107.34	+ 0.14	1.29
Dollar Gth	43.22	45.74t	+ 0.02	4.76
Higher Inc	78.57	74.80	+ 0.55	-
American Gth Inc	105.11	132.30t	+ 0.55	-
European Growth	269.66	286.40t	+ 0.40	-
(Accum Units)	274.50	27.30	-	-
Global Bond Inc #	30.77	32.07t	+ 0.01	1.98
Global Fixd Int Inc	49.54	52.58	+ 0.02	1.54
(Accum Units)	77.15	82.01t	+ 0.02	2.11
Gilt Fixed Int	97.84	104.66t	+ 0.01	2.11
(Accum Units)	140.77	149.76t	+ 1.95	2.81
UK Growth				
International Growth Funds				
American	188.47	195.18t	+ 2.49	0.22
Commodities #	121.48	129.28t	+ 0.58	-
Energy Income #	72.20	81.30t	+ 0.40	6.15
Eurofund	76.50	81.30t	+ 0.40	-
Global Bond	110.56	118.04t	+ 0.26	-
Japan Growth	166.08	176.68t	+ 0.21	-
North Amer Gwth	70.11	74.59t	+ 0.31	-
Oriental Growth	69.75	68.78t	+ 0.51	0.11
Worldwide Growth				
OTHER CO TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.30	91.91t	+ 0.01	6.64
Homeowner Fund	76.10	80.86	+ 0.09	1.67
Retirer Fund	125.05	133.05	+ 0.01	2.43

For Channelsphere see Sun Life of Canada

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
01271 407 6666

Consistent UT	29.97	32.17	+ 0.05	3.45

COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD
0800 526 350

Growth	126.20	142.60	+ 0.10	1.79
Income	69.55	78.91	+ 0.18	5.04
European	148.50	158.10t	+ 0.70	2.15
Recovery				

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
01771 263 3464

Equity Dist	101.70	113.00	-	3.22

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
01277 680 376

Fellowship Tst	71.85	76.29t	+ 0.23	1.29
Income #	235.26	250.30	+ 1.40	4.65
(Accum Units) #	576.88	596.50	+ 3.50	4.65
Smaller Cos	158.50	168.30	+ 0.40	0.58
(Accum Units)	162.50	169.40	+ 0.40	0.58
Inv Portfolio	70.60	74.90	+ 0.13	1.47
Sig Inc Pnt #	87.35	71.35	+ 0.27	4.99

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
01371 418 0177

Euro Small Cos	515.05	515.45	+20.69	-
Japan Small Cos	131.51	131.74	+ 0.50	-
UK Small Cos	214.74	217.95	+14.70	-
US Small Cos	215.77	216.27	+14.43	-

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
0171 977 8819

Disc Inc	198.50	208.50	-	3.19

DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0131 315 2500

European Gwth	288.10	294.50	+ 3.90	0.00
New Asia	194.10	207.10	+ 1.40	0.16
Japan Growth	105.74	113.00	+ 0.56	-
Jay Smlr Cos	450.20z	457.50t	- 0.50	0.05
Mid Small	364.09	378.70	+ 1.80	0.00
Global Adv Pac Mt	117.30	118.30	+ 1.20	3.01
UK Inc & Gwth	297.80	321.90t	+	-

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
01245 452 855

UK Balanced Inc	137.40	146.20	-	1.83
UK Bal Inc Pnt	147.20	156.60	-	4.60
UK High Inc Inc	188.60	200.60	+ 0.10	4.60
(Accum Units)	188.60	200.60	+ 0.10	4.60
UK Growth Inc	59.85	66.34	+ 0.05	5.29
UK Fxd Int Inc	82.29	87.54t	+ 0.01	1.87
Balanced Opps	48.19	51.27	+ 0.05	-
UK Sml Cos #				

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0345 080 855

American	121.66	128.10	+ 1.10	1.36
Commodities #	19.89	21.13t	+ 0.03	0.03
Equity Income #	122.20	129.80t	+ 0.60	4.06
Eurofund	43.95	46.69	+ 0.40	0.43
Financial	42.46	45.11	+ 0.31	1.97
Growth	228.00	242.10	+ 0.70	3.17
Growth & Inc #	121.20	128.70	+ 0.50	4.97
High Dist #	362.50	385.40	+ 2.00	0.13
International	84.50	89.80t	+ 0.70	1.21
Int Chp Inc	84.01	89.32t	+ 1.21	2.80
Latin American	74.01	78.67	+ 0.85	-
Pacific	72.88	77.44	-	7.40
Preference Share	28.60	22.30t	+ 0.05	-
Tokyo	207.20	220.20	+ 0.10	1.20
UK Smaller Cos	214.80	228.30	+	-

EUROTRUST UNIT TST MGRS LTD
01206 481 480

Eurogrowth	77.82	81.92	+ 0.69	1.92
Ethical Inc	49.81	52.45	+ 0.19	1.46
Far Eastern	128.27	135.55	+ 0.63	4.95
High Income	113.72	119.73t	+ 0.18	1.39
Smaller Cos	118.96	114.72	- 1.54	3.47
Special Sits	83.13	87.50	+ 0.01	2.90
Tst of Inv Trsts	171.77	180.81	+ 1.74	1.31

EVERGRUDE FUND MGMT LTD
01771 407 5996

Smaller Cos Inc	187.45	195.29t	- 1.84	1.50
Smaller Cos Acc	329.58	343.31t	- 2.57	1.50
Recovery	47.61	49.60	- 0.18	1.43
Recovery Acc #	48.32	50.33	- 0.18	1.43

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
01392 412 144

Balanced	108.72	115.88	+ 0.11	5.01
Capital Growth	77.22	82.31	+ 0.10	-
Fd of Inv Trsts	41.98	44.76	+ 0.10	0.65
High Income #	39.88	41.98t	+ 0.02	11.06
Income	47.04	51.12z	+ 0.16	-
Special Sits	32.07	36.38	+ 0.01	-

FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD
01275 220 707

Equity Assnt Tst	75.26	80.09t	+0.0.00	2.95
Equity Income Tst	80.23	85.35t	+ 0.19	5.56
Equity Trust	248.50	264.50t	+1.100	4.22
United Charities				

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD
Callers, Private Clients: 0800 414 161

Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	-	5.80
Cash Fund				
Bond Fund	29.79	29.80	+ 0.04	7.47
Fixed Int Fund	29.62	30.02	+ 0.04	5.01
Gilt Fixed Int				
Income Funds	29.29	24.45t	-	3.16
High Income	105.16	111.80t	+ 0.10	4.69
Income Plus	46.54	49.06	+ 0.04	-
Amer Eq Inc	69.52	73.27	+ 0.35	2.56
European Income	83.05	87.53	+ 0.14	3.48
Far East Inc	21.31	22.97t	+ 0.14	1.82
Global Convertible	29.89	35.10t	+ 0.14	-
UK Eth Gth				
Equity Funds	59.39	60.15	- 0.04	-
ASEAN	241.90	254.90	+ 3.70	-
American	113.59	121.10	+ 0.90	-
Asian Spec Sits	35.81	37.67	+ 0.19	-
Japan Smaller Cos	161.50	171.90	+ 0.52	-
Japan Special	64.95	64.56	+ 0.52	-
European Opps	72.45	24.84t	+ 0.16	0.64
Global Fix	97.62	101.17	+ 0.29	-
UK Growth	137.00	145.70	+ 0.40	2.15
Growth & Inc	35.77	38.04	+ 0.18	-
Int PEP	84.95	90.42	+ 0.23	-
Japan Spec Sits	162.10	169.90	+ 0.50	-
Japan	252.50	270.70t	+ 0.10	-
Managed Int	50.35	53.54	+ 0.16	-
Monthly Income	40.67	43.69t	+ 0.14	-
Recovery	140.30	149.70	+ 0.50	-
Small Co Asia	488.80	520.40	+ 0.02	5.80
Special Sits				
Specialist Funds	169.83	180.83	+ 0.02	5.80
Cash Access Units				

For Charlesbridge see Sun Life of Canada

FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS
Dealing: 01765 861300 Enq 01765 861349

FP Ann Stable Cos	112.30	120.10	+ 0.90	0.0
FP Asian Growth	265.30	251.10	+ 0.10	0.0
FP Australasian	364.40	388.80	+ 0.70	2.87
FP Equity Dist	374.90	398.80	+ 0.80	2.87
FP Equity Inc	261.70	262.20	+ 1.40	2.87
FP Euro Gth Dist	261.70	262.20	+ 1.40	0.68
FP Fixed Int Dist	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Gilt Edged	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Int Bd Dist	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Int Bd Inc	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Int Sh Mat Dist	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Int Sh Mat Inc	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Japan Dist	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Japan Inc	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Managed	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Money Dist	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Money Inc	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Pac Basin Dist	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Pac Basin Inc	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Property	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Sh Mat Dist	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Sh Mat Inc	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Sterling Dep	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP Tokyo	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP UK Focus	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
FP UK Growth	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
(Accum Units)	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
Shareholder Inc	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68
(Accum Units)	158.50	169.00	+ 1.50	0.68

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
01771 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 431

UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	48.51	49.76	+ 0.05	2.51
Cash Trust	137.27	137.27t	+ 0.01	5.73
Practical Int Inc #	116.68	117.39t	+ 0.21	3.56
(Accum Units) #	146.22	148.69t	+ 0.50	3.56
UK Index	117.34	125.50	+ 0.54	3.56
UK Smaller Cos				
Income Funds	23.60	25.24	-	0.27
Preference Share	32.09	34.32	+ 0.03	9.57
High Income	126.35	137.72	+ 0.13	5.32
UK Equity Income	28.11	29.13t	+ 0.13	5.32
Global Bond				
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	43.25	46.26t	+ 1.43	2.32
Global Inc & Gth	125.15	133.15t	+ 0.47	
Gold & Intl Tst	104.01	111.24	+ 1.92	1.41
Global Utilities	121.58	130.16	+ 0.75	
Overseas Funds				
American	141.69	150.98	+ 0.75	1.23
European	98.93	104.99t	+ 0.17	1.38
Far East	142.78	151.70	+ 0.91	
Japan	98.82	105.05	+ 0.36	1.82
Japan Growth	235.01	235.04	+ 0.36	
Japan Income	224.82	238.84	+ 0.19	1.45
Pacific Growth	198.19	211.97		
Sterling Protects				
Managed Equity	207.77	207.77t	+ 1.03	2.26
Long Term Bd	222.58	227.58t	+ 1.15	3.29
Mid Term Bd	184.36	194.36t	+ 0.46	3.57
UK Equity	238.17	238.17	+ 1.43	2.57
UK Emerging Cos	134.72	134.72	+ 0.81	1.51
American	235.13	235.13t	+ 1.58	
Japan	108.71	108.71	+ 0.65	
Select Inc	257.58	257.58t	+ 1.55	1.62
Select Acc	189.66	189.66	+ 1.14	2.78
Recovery	214.43	214.43	+ 0.56	0.67
Sterling Bds	114.69	114.69t	+ 0.69	6.75
Sterling Mkts	145.53	145.53t	+ 0.88	0.35
Index Linked	169.00	169.00t	-	0.45
Index Stock Mkt	148.91	148.91	+ 1.82	1.58
Eastern Perpetual Pension Funds	133.86	133.86	+ 0.55	2.31
Managed Fund	107.52	98.24	+ 0.04	-
Mod Sterling Bd	102.35	108.76	+ 0.05	-
Long Term Bd	102.35	108.76	+ 0.05	-
UK Equity	110.48	117.54	+ 0.19	-
UK Emerging Cos	71.19	75.73	+ 0.77	-
American	52.86	56.40	+ 0.20	-
Japan	107.07	113.91	+ 0.41	-
European	78.76	83.79	+ 0.04	-
Pacific	70.77	75.35	+ 0.17	-
Global Inc	50.77	54.05	+ 0.17	-
Index Unit Trusts				
Berkeley Int Gth	118.60	117.78	+ 0.98	-
Berkeley Income #	108.40	115.30	+ 0.40	0.62
Berkeley Recovery	130.35	137.21t	+ 0.79	0.62
Berkeley Smlr Cos	59.97	60.80t	+ 0.41	0.00
Berkeley Special	55.60	59.20	+ 0.29	0.65
Berkeley Tst Fund	51.50	54.35	+ 0.25	3.18

GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT
GAM Sterling Management 0171 667 4000

Sterling	550.11	583.95	+ 8.21	1.84
& Int Inc	588.59	627.32	+10.23	1.84
(Accum Units)	137.53	146.31	-	1.12
European Inc	137.53	146.32	-	-
Arcadian Inc	306.14	348.98	+ 7.46	-
(Accum Units)	308.74	328.32	-	-
Int Bond Inc	317.69	337.97	-	1.69
UK Gold Inc	168.97	188.82	-	-

GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD
0171 378 7678 Dealing: 0171 407 7666

UK Equity Inc	85.18	92.18	- 0.10	4.89
UK Small Cos	45.54	48.70	- 0.07	1.92
UK Smaller Cos	64.49	68.98	- 0.12	2.81
American Growth	188.11	177.88	- 0.51	-
Asian Gwth	89.60	95.79	+ 0.48	-
Dynamic Gwth	178.11	185.25	+ 0.47	-
European Growth	148.81	157.00	+ 1.50	-
Far East Inc	84.55	90.09	+ 0.13	0.99
Global Growth	140.05	148.57	+ 0.51	0.76
Japan Growth	73.72	78.54	+ 0.45	0.18
Pacific Growth	155.26	165.81	+ 0.52	-
Overseas Funds	163.04	174.35	+ 0.30	0.44
Asian Enterprise	459.60	486.56	+ 4.00	0.75
Eurotrust	89.09	94.89	+ 0.49	0.62
European Income	147.14	157.59	+ 1.29	0.85
Euro Trust Cos	98.47	71.19t	+ 0.48	0.52
Ep Op Sits	71.21	76.22	+ 0.53	0.62
(Accum Units)				

GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD
0171 638 5678

Cash	130.60	138.60	-	4.13
European	457.40	489.60	+ 5.00	0.51
Gilt & Fixed	329.50	352.70	+ 0.20	5.58
International	126.50	135.40	+ 0.10	1.86
Japan Trust	173.00	184.80z	+ 0.50	0.20
Pacific	169.50	181.40	- 1.70	-
UK Acc/Inc	482.50	516.50	+ 0.80	1.99

GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD
01771 602 2139

Bond Trust	97.12	100.62	+ 0.48	7.33
Global High Inc	95.15	99.79	+ 0.06	6.02
Fixed Rate Int	100.53	105.54t	+ 0.10	6.07
Equ & Bond Inc	100.53	105.59t	+ 0.74	5.35
Global Bond	98.12	104.33	+ 0.01	-
Global Inc	97.96	97.96	+ 0.73	-
Int PEP Trust	118.74	126.25	+ 0.18	4.11
High Income	118.74	126.25	+ 0.18	4.11
UK Growth	139.79	148.70	+ 0.40	1.91
Recovery	401.40	426.80	+ 0.40	1.91
(Accum Units)	119.79	121.59t	+ 0.95	7.20
Far East High Inc	230.20	244.80	+ 0.95	2.57
UK Emerg Cos	348.20	346.20	+13.40	2.57
UK Smlr Cos	84.77	84.75t	+ 1.12	1.66
Glob Prfr Fd	89.88	95.64	+ 1.14	1.66
Inc Share Tst	84.22	89.55	+ 2.15	6.56

HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD
Dealing: 0171 220 5050

Special Sits	25.55	27.09	+ 0.18	1.73
Growth	25.55	27.09	+ 0.18	1.73
Growth Acc	25.62	27.16	+ 0.12	3.89
Income	25.62	27.16	+ 0.12	3.89
Income Acc				

HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 680 360

Income	197.30	209.30t	- 0.80	2.47
Medel Pacific	29.24	31.11t	- 0.03	0.03
Smaller Cos				

HENDERSON TOUCHE REMNANT
Enquiries: 01277 263 250 Dealing: 01277 294 772

UK Funds				
Special Sits	308.65	311.20t	+ 1.59	1.45
Bd of Britain	69.41

Early gains are halved

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
467	413	Abbey Nat	464	+7	4.6	10.4
278	230	Allied Irish	257		5.1	8.2
253	198	Anz New	237	+6		
3867½	2531½	Bank America	3087½	+25		
2357½	191½	Bank Scotland	2297½	+3½	2.9	12.8
653½	557½	Barclays	651	+10	4.9	10.6
316	288	Bk of Ireland	316	+1	4.6	9.2
2837½	2450	Chicago	2727½	+37½		
261	219	Close Brost	261		3.8	11.8
£150½	£125½	Commerzbk	£146½	+3.25	3.7	
1275	995½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1165½	+6½	0.5	
2317½	1285	Deutsche Bk	2304	+40½	1.4	
856½	615½	Espirito Santo	693½	+3½	12.4	
78	57	First Nat Fin	73		2.6	46.6
1485	1192½	Fuji Bank Y	1298	+5½	0.5	
231	195	Hambros	218	-4	4.6	12.4
734	585	HSBC	727	+9	4.6	9.1
721½	578	HSBC Hld	712½	+5½	4.7	9.0
468	368	Joseph (L)	365	+13	6.9	10.6
683	529	Kleinwort Benl	681	+2	4.1	12.9
850½	590	Lloyds	839	+9	4.1	10.6
556½	479	Nat Aust Bk	536	+10	6.4	9.2
547½	454	Nat Westmin	542½	+2	5.0	9.1
2400	2150	Orlxsom Bank	2375		5.2	9.3
97	56	Rea Bros	97		5.2	
429	327½	Royal Bk Scot	424		4.2	11.7
1548	1360	Schroders	1536		1.7	15.0
1363	1235	Schroders NVI	1360		1.9	12.4
86½	62	Singer & Fried	74		5.5	
364	245	Standard Chartd	344	+9	3.4	8.5
264½	217	TSB	244	+1	4.6	10.4
784	655	Warburg Sh	768	+1	3.9	12.3
5101½	4040	Wells Fargo	4980	-1½	2.4	
224	211	Westpac	218		8.5	13.7
236	200	Wirelnd	208		1.9	

BREWERIES

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
172	143	Allied Lyons	166	+3	4.7	13.9
368	287	Bass	366	+5	4.1	13.8
177	161	Bellingham	161		4.8	13.5
178	137	Burtonwd Brw	178		4.2	18.1
170	137	Burtonwd Brw	170		4.2	13.7
318	248	Carlsberg Brewery	318	+1	3.8	14.8
335	305	Cdn Bw A	335	+3	3.7	14.6
488	468	Cresswells Grp	488		3.7	14.6
560	468	Greene King	560		3.6	14.6
1150	1000	Hardy Hanson	1150		3.6	11.9
1560	1360	Highland	1560		3.6	11.9
3450	3000	Hill Samuel	3450		3.6	11.9
248	219	Marchant	248		3.6	14.2
266	266	Mclan Thmp	266		3.6	14.2
460	400	Morland	460		3.6	14.2
8½	6½	Paramount				
341	307	Regent Inns	338		3.6	11.7
1782½	1287½	SA Brewerie	1692½	-9½	3.6	17.3
485	383	Scot & Nwc	484		3.6	12.6
224	211	Vaux Group	224	+6	3.6	21.2
504	448	Wolverhampton	504		3.6	13.3
577½	463	Wolverhmpton D	511	+1	3.4	13.3
208	186	Yates Bros	208	+1	3.5	15.2
488	450	Young 'A'	455		4.1	19.2

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
150	125	Abbey	135		5.2	9.1
78	63	Allen	152		4.6	14.3
74	56	Amec	74	-3	5.2	
147	133	Andrews Sykes	147			18.5
484	412	Ashtead	484		6.2	
35	35	Bamford	35		2.4	22.3
195½	158	Barratt Devt	188	-2	4.3	13.2
197	180	Bellway	196		4.9	18.6
37	27	Bellwtch	37		4.2	14.2
375	315	Berkeley Gp	375		3.2	11.9
265	205	Bovis (Henry)	265		3.3	5.2
129	93	Brambles Indl	129		4.1	10.7
168	132	Br Bldg & Engr	168		8.8	17.2
134	105	Bryant	134		4.9	12.5
115	98	CALA	115		3.3	13.1
38	28	Clapham & Ann	38	-1		
54	49	Clarke TJ	54		5.8	
74½	60	Costain	74½			
121	110	Countryside	121		5.5	12.1
98	71	Crest Nicholson	98		3.5	10.6
88	68	Cromar	88		5.5	
215	178	Edmond Hdgs	210	-7	6.3	8.9
23	18	Ees Group	23		6.8	
93	85	Gibbs & Dandy	86		3.2	
663	628	Glasgow (MJ)	663		3.2	15.9
81	71	Green (Ernest)	72		9.8	18.3
206	178	Hawtlock Gro	206		9.8	18.8
176	138	Hemden-Stuart	175½	-6½	2.4	17.0
93	73	Higgs & Hill	78		6.5	13.0
22	17	Howard Hdgs	17			
9	9	Jones	9		9.0	
117	101	Kelar	105		5.7	
223	185	Laing (JJ)	192	-1	5.7	9.4
247	215	Laing & Cr Pf	215		5.7	12.4
124	115	Lon Clydesde	117		5.4	9.2
61	52	Lovell (Tan)	52	-1	3.8	9.1
210	186	Manders (JH)	186		4.9	10.2
191	166	McAlpine (A)	166	-5	5.3	
88	68	McCarthy & S	68			18.8
61	51	Morgan Sindall	51		3.1	41.1
186	80	Morrison Cstr	80		6.0	12.8
3450	3163	Peckmanor	3450		2.4	12.0
1795	1705	Pochin	1795½		4.2	12.0
155	113	Pressac	113		4.9	17.2
15	15	Raine Ind	15		11.2	5.8
116	95	Rmcon Rollin	112			14.1
118	98	Redpath	112			24.8
97	69	Scrib-Fer	97			15.2
134	94	Shand Hdgs	134			12.9
112½	88	Sharpe	112			5.3
218	208	Smart (J)	208			21.9
318	288	Sondes	318			11.1
168	159	Tay Homes	168		5.2	21.5
114	114	Taylor Woodrow	114			
568	433	Tilbury Douglas	568		2.9	19.6
99½	92	Tmmi Hmf	99½		2.9	19.2
21	16	Ty Bravnt	21		4.4	12.2
109	104	Vibroplant	109		5.5	12.1
116	97	Wassmore	116		3.4	19.2
146	129	Wernbry	146		4.7	13.2
163	124	Whelan (C)	163		3.6	11.8
138	108	Wilson Bowdn	138		3.6	12.2
133	113	Wimpey Gt	130	-3	3.6	16.1

BUILDING MATERIALS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
16	7½	Abingdon			6.9	15.2
334	333	Alumasc	333		3.5	16.7
47	47	Ancaster Gp	47		4.3	20.2
291	258	BPB Ind	291	+1	3.4	16.8
52	35	Baggeridge Brk	52	+2	3.8	13.3
81	52	Barton	81		3.1	
35	32	Blockley	35		6.9	16.4
395	265	Blue Circle	395	+3	7.5	
168	138	Brandon PLC	168		5.3	16.0
31	31	Br Dredging	31		6.5	
376	338	Cmnt Cmbnrd Rly	376		2.7	9.7
218	198	Cmnt	218		6.9	14.4
314	314	Caradon	314		6.9	12.8
121	114	Cmdn A	139	+½	6.9	11.5
131	105	Charter Grp	131		4.2	15.8
115	115	Chrtr Grp	115		4.2	9.5
274	184	Cmcorp (W)	274			
401	401	Courtaulds	401		3.7	30.8
334	334	Cmda	334	- 3	3.5	15.5
188	138	Dartlnt	188		3.7	23.2
98	98	Eng Calcm	98	+ 1	3.7	10.5
114	114	Gibbons	114	- 3	6.0	
139	139	Hickscott	143	+ 7	4.4	
1740½	1730½	Hnsdrd	1736½	-503½	3.9	
215	197	Holiday Cmnt	197		3.2	14.1
680	680	IMI	740	- 1	4.6	30.1
139	97	Kldn	139		4.1	14.9
680	680	Lasmlnt	680	+ 4	4.1	14.9
79	79	MBM	79	+ 1	2.3	
3175	2830	Mmdsort	3140	+ 4	4.4	14.6
130	113	Mclevd Rccal	128		6.0	14.7
98	98	Metrod	98		6.0	6.2
865	865	Mddlndtn	3845	+ 5½	4.6	19.8
318	280	Pndarl	315		1.9	24.7
210	188	Scrpa	210		3.5	17.1
21	16	Scttsh Sprnt	17		6.1	10.1
697	695	Tarmac Cmbn	709½	+ 7½	4.1	9.2
315	315	Wards Chmcl	315	- 15	7.0	15.4
188	188	Wellington Hdgs	188	- 1	3.7	
233	233	Wiltshire Rf	240		3.5	15.9
236	236	York Cmnt	236	+ 2	3.2	13.1
251		Yte Colln	251		3.5	13.1

BUSINESS SERVICES

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
17	11½	Anglo Utd	17			
198	167	Aqs Hldg				
216	178	Ashley (GN)				
178	133	Bkr Amps			9.2	6.7
88	68	Bk Boxwood				
120	88	Card Co			12.0	6.5
28	28	Chemex			2.8	14.1
11	7	Chrys			1.1	7.7
34	34	Fitzkn			3.4	12.3
215	215	Fkbrn			3.4	12.4
66	66	Hmbrs			6.6	16.3
53	53	Hsmn Gp			5.3	21.1
14	14	Hunter			1.4	22.2
47	47	Ingnta			4.7	13.2
53	53	Kalon Gp			5.3	11.8
14	14	Kelt			1.4	14.6
26	26	Kwik-Fit			2.6	14.2
14	14	Lex Service			1.4	14.6
164	164	Lowndes			16.4	13.9
14	14	Mitie Grp			1.4	14.6
5½	5½	Moddocks				
365	365	Norkm			36.5	34.0
61	61	Northn			6.1	14.7
1350	1350	PCT			13.5	
1350	1350	Pendragon			13.5	
1800	1800	Pizza Gp			18.0	
552	552	Rentokil Group			5.5	33.7
46	46	REA			4.6	
2½	2½	Rnco				
50	50	Rnrt Co			5.0	15.8
2½	2½	SGB Indl				
2½	2½	SLS Hldgs				
2½	2½	Sanderson				
2½	2½	Sanderson A				
2½	2½	Sanderson B				
2½	2½	Sanderson C				
2½	2½	Sanderson D				
2½	2½	Sanderson E				
2½	2½	Sanderson F				
2½	2½	Sanderson G				
2½	2½	Sanderson H				
2½	2½	Sanderson I				
2½	2½	Sanderson J				
2½	2½	Sanderson K				
2½	2½	Sanderson L				
2½	2½	Sanderson M				
2½	2½	Sanderson N				
2½	2½	Sanderson O				
2½	2½	Sanderson P				
2½	2½	Sanderson Q				
2½	2½	Sanderson R				
2½	2½	Sanderson S				
2½	2½	Sanderson T				
2½	2½	Sanderson U				
2½	2½	Sanderson V				
2½	2½	Sanderson W				
2½	2½	Sanderson X				
2½	2½	Sanderson Y				
2½	2½	Sanderson Z				

CHEMICALS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
129	108	Allied Colloids	127	+ 1	2.4	17.9
795	792	Anglo Ind	793		3.4	15.5
£141½	£124½	BOC Gp	£139½	-2½	3.6	
734	580	BTR	734	+ 6	4.1	14.6
353	346	Bnfd	346	+ 1	3.6	14.6
£158½	£141½	Bnfd DM50	£154½	+ 3½	3.6	14.3
116	103	Bwden	116	+ 4	3.6	
111	101	Brnt Chemcl	111	+ 3	3.9	16.5
258	218	Br Vita	247	+ 5		
46	38	Cambridge Isr	45		4.7	
214	184	Cmcorp (W)	214	- 1	4.1	30.8
401	401	Courtaulds	401		3.7	15.5
334	334	Cmda	334	- 3	3.5	
188	138	Dartlnt	188		3.7	23.2
98	98	Eng Calcm	98	+ 1	3.7	10.5
114	114	Gibbons	114	- 3	6.0	
139	139	Hickscott	143	+ 7	4.4	
1740½	1730½	Hnsdrd	1736½	-503½	3.9	
215	197	Holiday Cmnt	197		3.2	14.1
680	680	IMI	740	- 1	4.6	30.1
139	97	Kldn	139		4.1	14.9
680	680	Lasmlnt	680	+ 4	4.1	14.9
79	79	MBM	79	+ 1	2.3	
3175	2830	Mmdsort	3140	+ 4	4.4	14.6
130	113	Mclevd Rccal	128		6.0	14.7
98	98	Metrod	98		6.0	6.2
865	865	Mddlndtn	3845	+ 5½	4.6	19.8
318	280	Pndarl	315		1.9	24.7
210	188	Scrpa	210		3.5	17.1
21	16	Scttsh Sprnt	17		6.1	10.1
697	695	Tarmac Cmbn	709½	+ 7½	4.1	9.2
315	315	Wards Chmcl	315	- 15	7.0	15.4
188	188	Wellington Hdgs	188	- 1	3.7	
233	233	Wiltshire Rf	240		3.5	15.9
236	236	York Cmnt	236	+ 2	3.2	13.1
251		Yte Colln	251		3.5	13.1

DISTRIBUTORS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
105	91	Alb Leis	93		5.5	10.7
595	535	Adam & Harvey	595		5.5	8.9
21	16	Alexandrst	18		6.7	
193	88	Applegarth	188	+ 8	6.7	
4½		Arbs Br Eng	3½		17	26.8
562	518	BSS Group	552		4.1	18.5
21	20½	Bowng Power	21		6.0	10.6
26	26	Bogod 'A'	26	+ 5	4.7	
358	345	Bremner	358		14	11.9
15	10½	Bridgend Gp	15		17	78.0
56	46	Brit Fittings	56	- 2	5.4	
88	88	Brown & Tawse	88			
38	33	Burndene	38	- 5	6.5	36.1
220	220	Calfwys	220		3.5	8.0
89	89	Cadnd Plc	89		5.6	11.5
89	89	Central Mk	89		5.6	45.9
110	110	Clark (IC)	110		4.0	11.0
220	220	Comet	267½	+10½	4.3	11.5
135	135	Dng Motors	135	+ 3	5.7	
188	188	Dobbies H	191		3.5	14.4
154	154	Diploma	154		3.6	15.4
472	472	Electrocomponents	539		4.9	16.6
153	153	Electra Hlstcl	161	+ 1	2.8	13.5
234	234	Elec & Eveard	234		4.9	16.1
193	193	Evode	193		3.5	18.3
512	512	Farnell Elect	512		3.6	19.9
48	46	Fitz Indstry	48	- 2	7.0	11.4
15	15	Gardener	15			
24	16	Glendimplex	24		4.6	10.8
172	168	Greenings	172	+ 1	4.6	13.4
258	258	Hallen Hdgst	258	+ 2	6.2	13.9
98	91	Harris (Philip)	98		2.7	
91	91	Hartnett	91		6.2	11.7
110	110	Hawtlock Textl	110		6.2	13.4
46	46	Hit Indstry V	46		7.6	3.9
274	274	Jacksonpart	274	- 3	6.2	11.7
143	143	Jacks Wray	143			
172	142	Kwik-Fit	172		3.8	17.8
277	277	Lex Service	277	+ 6	5.2	13.4
164	164	Lowndes	164		5.7	9.1
14	14	Mitie Grp	14½		3.5	
5½	5½	Moddocks	5½	- 7	9.0	18.5
365	365	Norkm	365		36.5	34.0
61	61	Northn	61	+ 7	6.1	14.7
1350	1350	PCT	1350		13.5	
1350	1350	Pendragon	1350	+ 7	13.5	
1800	1800	Pizza Gp	1800		18.0	
552	552	Rentokil Group	552	+ 2	5.5	33.7
46	46	REA	46		4.6	
2½	2½	Rnco	2½			
50	50	Rnrt Co	50		5.0	15.8
2½	2½	SGB Indl	2½			
2½	2½	SLS Hldgs	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson A	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson B	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson C	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson D	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson E	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson F	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson G	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson H	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson I	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson J	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson K	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson L	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson M	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson N	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson O	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson P	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson Q	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson R	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson S	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson T	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson U	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson V	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson W	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson X	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson Y	2½			
2½	2½	Sanderson Z	2½			

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
155	149	Advsol	155		5.9	14.0
253	235	Amalgamtd	288	- 7	1.8	24.5
397	397	Ascmnt			5.5	8.9
484	484	Bardon Hill			6.7	
2700	2400	Bemrose Int	2600	+ 1	5.0	15.4
88	71	Bemrs (J)	88		4.1	13.5
2700	2400	Blenkinsop Hldgs	2600	+ 1	5.0	14.9
815	743	Bodycote	815	+ 3	3.7	17.6
356	345	Bolmmer	356	+ 3	4.7	21.2
17	17	Bonnar (J)	17		4.7	12.8
2495	2385	Bowthorpe	2495	+ 5	3.6	17.0
2495	2385	Brmnghm Cystl	2495	+ 5	3.6	17.0
2994	2994	Bunzl	2994	+ 6	3.6	17.0
5944	4154	Burdine Mstn	5944	+ 6	3.6	17.0
39	39	Burndan (T)	39		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Burnden Hldgs	1511		3.6	17.0
440	440	Cmbrdge Dstrbtn	440		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Indstrl	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Mtrls	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Prcsn	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Tchnlgy	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Trdng	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Wrldwd	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Yrkshr	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland A	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland B	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland C	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland D	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland E	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland F	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland G	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland H	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland I	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland J	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland K	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland L	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland M	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland N	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland O	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland P	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland Q	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland R	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland S	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland T	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland U	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland V	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland W	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland X	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland Y	1511		3.6	17.0
1511	1511	Cmbrdge Zetland Z	1511		3.6	17.0

ELECTRICITY

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
850	564	East Midlands	819	+ 4	5.6	26.0
1350	1350	Eastern Elec	1350	+ 5	5.2	9.1
1138	1138	London Elec	1138	+ 5	5.2	9.1
1138	715	Midlands Elec	1138	+ 5	5.0	9.5
1073	611	Nthrn Ireland	1073	+ 5	5.4	9.2
552	457	Northern Elec	552	+ 5	5.4	9.2
1333	1333	Norweb	1333	+ 5	4.9	7.6
1350	1350	Powergen	1350	+ 5	4.9	10.1
1350	1350	Hydro-Elec	1350	+ 5	4.9	10.3
1350	1350	Scottish Power	1350	+ 5	4.9	9.3
1350	1350	Seeboard	1350	+ 5	4.9	8.7
912	912	Sth Wales	912	+ 5	5.0	8.4
1350	1350	Sth Western	1350	+ 5	4.9	9.0
1350	1350	Southern Elec	1350	+ 5	4.9	11.0
599	599	Yorkshire Elec	640	+ 16	5.4	11.0

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
97½	77½	Acorn Comp A				
636	625	Admstrl			1.5	19.1
208	208	Aeal			3.6	15.8
188	127½	Alltel			3.1	16.3
127½	127½	Anscbart				
389	389	Arlen				
116	116	Asnct			3.7	8.4
280	280	Bicc			5.4	16.5
280	280	Bowes Hunter			5.4	12.3
230	230	Brmnghm Bio				
17½	17½	Brnstn (Ar) 'A'				
185	185	CML Micro				
28	28	Chemrd Hldgs				
195	195	Chrysalis				
105	105	Cmp Elect			1.9	19.5
61	61	Cmputnx				
105	105	Comprsnc				
176	176	Cmtr Cntrl				
1563	1563	Dataflow				
3300	2700	Dialight				
4050½	3300½	Electrocmpt				
94	94	Eurocomm				
411	375	Exprtmnt				
411	375	Fairey Group				
195	195	Ferranti Co				
289	289	Filtronic				
104	104	Gecintor				
1350	1350	Gresham Cmptr				
254	254	Hartnett Assr				
835	835	Hartnw (Jn)				
104	104	Hrtmn Mtrls				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Tchnlgy				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Wrldwd				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Yrkshr				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland A				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland B				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland C				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland D				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland E				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland F				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland G				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland H				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland I				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland J				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland K				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland L				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland M				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland N				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland O				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland P				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland Q				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland R				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland S				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland T				
1350	1350	Hrtmn Zetland U				
1350

INFOTECH

Now the viewer has the last laugh

Dom Foulsham assesses the first bold steps in the life of interactive television

Britain's armchair television critics can now send off the TV comedians they don't like thanks to the world's first interactive comedy show, *Cosmic Comedy Interactive*, which made its debut last Saturday.

Devised by Videotron, the cable TV company, the show follows the traditional mix of stand-up and satiric wit, with an extraordinary added bonus. Instead of sitting through the worst performers, the viewer at home can choose to "zap" — with their remote control — any of the would-be comics and bring on a new one.

The illusion of interactivity relies on Videotron's set-top box being capable of switching between any one of four channels each showing a different comic. Viewers are offered the choice of zapping a comedian at preset intervals. By the time they return to the first channel, a new comic will be on.

Cosmic Comedy is the first British-produced interactive TV programme, with previous shows including *Interactive Roulette* and *Interactive Blackjack* — a show where every viewer, or rather player, enjoys a personal game of blackjack with a blonde host with a Barbie doll hair-do. The language of TV actually changes to an acutely personal dialogue with the viewer. George Orwell was a decade out. In 1995, the television is talking to *you*. "Are you sure you can afford to gamble on those cards?" the presenter asks.

Videotron says that interactive versions of Eurosport's Winter Olympics coverage and interactive programmes in general attract far bigger audiences than "linear" shows. It says subscription churn — the industry term for those cable subscribers cancelling or reducing their subscriptions after trying the product — is dramatically reduced.

But is this really interactive TV? The notion of interactive programming isn't new. Those old enough to remember Bob Monkhouse's *The Golden Shot* of the early 1970s will recall the novelty of viewers guiding the crossbows from home.

In the 1990s, pseudo-interactivity is a boom industry, with any number of children's television programmes with a play-the-computer-by-touch-phone feature bolted on to the show in a desperate shot at emulating computer games.

The grown-ups don't know any better, with shows ranging from *Talking Telephone Numbers* to the mass voting audience approach of *Do The Right Thing*, where the so-called interactivity dictates that the storyline follows the audience vote. Yet they all fall into either televoting *à la* Eurovision, or interactivity ruled by a mass vote, a sort of television manufactured by consent.

It is peculiarly apt that the next generation of interactive viewers will see the limited nature of our 1990s television as little different from theatre's vaudeville entertainment over the 20th-century airwaves. For the first time in the history of the small screen, interactive television promises to take the "broad" out of broadcasting, and there is every evidence to suggest that it will keep that pledge. The electronic homogenisation of mass culture and entertainment on computers, thanks to montage of image, word and sound, is creating a new society of intimate consumers. The Internet will remain the "greatest geek show on earth" until its Victorian preoccupation with the written word is inevitably replaced with the 20th-century version, moving picture and sound.

For now, we must tolerate the superhighway's road drills and the Internet's engaged tones. This month, the moving picture is 100 years old, and interactive television certainly feels like early film-making in search of its own D.W. Griffiths and Spielbergs.

Like Alan Turing's definition of a computer that really has a mind of its own, defining interactive television must surely say "if it feels like you're in control, then it's interactive".

The fact that we can't lavish Videotron's instant dismissal of unfunny comics upon the Barrymores or Beadles serves as a reminder of the increasing gulf in technologies between the terrestrial broadcasters' something-for-everyone TV and the first generation of personalised entertainment shows such as *Cosmic Comedy*.

Elsewhere interactive television trials are being carried out from Orlando, Florida, to Ipswich, Suffolk. But in most cases, interactive means ordering shopping, checking the bank statement, or calling up the video you want to watch via your adapted TV. This is merely a control of your communications, rather than you communicating your control. *Cosmic Comedy* is no joke. Companies such as Videotron may well have the last laugh.



Finding that comic deeply unfunny? Armchair television critics can now zap them offstage

Launch of the safety Net

How secure is a computer?

MANY businesses are looking at ways of using the Internet as a new way to sell to people, while ensuring that computers and customers are protected by a safety valve against system failure and hackers, *writes Matthew May*.

This week, Tandem Computer has introduced Cyberweb, a range of software that it says guarantees security for those wanting to indulge in electronic commerce on the global network.

The company joins an expanding group of serious computer manufacturers that realise that more and more of their business customers want to know what their computer supplier is doing about the Internet.

Tandem makes so-called "fault tolerant computers" where, by duplicating certain components, the number of times a computer fails can be drastically reduced. Many of its customers use them for financial transactions.

Now, Tandem is hoping that this track record will make providing Internet services an important new part of its business.

A fast reader

MITSUBISHI Electric says it is putting the finishing touches to an artificial retina which can read the basic 1,945 Chinese characters, or *kanji*, needed for basic literacy in written Japanese.

The retina is actually a computer chip with 16,384 photoreceptors that can read at 300,000 characters a second.

Mitsubishi, which expects to begin mass production next year, says the first applications will be in the "eyes" of industrial robots, video-image recognition and processing equipment.

Battle at Apple

APPLE Computer has announced a major reorganisation in a move to shore up its share of the personal computer market, which has dwindled to below 9 per cent.

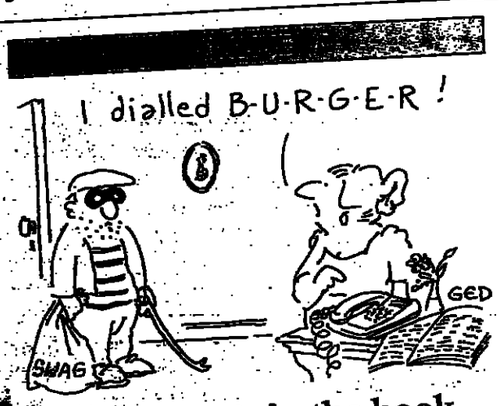
As part of the change, Ian Diery, executive vice-president and manager of the PC hardware division, will step down. "There's been an internal battle between those who want to focus on market share and those who want to preserve profitability," says Bruce Lupatkin, an analyst at Hambrecht & Quist. "The market share camp won."

Dog days

WHEN two police officers in a small town near Houston, Texas, were accused of killing a stray dog by using it for target practice, it caught the attention only of the local community.

But then the story was put in the pet-discussion areas of two large American online services and later repeated on the Internet. The result? Pet lovers from across America and around the world unleashed a torrent of angry letters, faxes and phone calls expressing their outrage.

The accused officers, who received death threats, have been found innocent.



The name's in the book

BT SAYS that its plan to reintroduce phones that use letters as well as numbers is not going to happen overnight, and it is likely to take until the next century before they become commonplace again. It hopes companies will see the marketing possibilities of registering a number which also spells for example, PIZZA, DRAINS or TAXI. They are common in America where, dialling 1-800-FLOWER will get you a florist. Many British companies are said to be keen on the idea, with some believed to be already reserving numbers that will spell out useful words.

Less for less

CELLNET, the mobile phone operator, is planning to launch a tariff in June aimed at customers wanting to make between 30 and 130 minutes of mobile calls a month using its digital network.

Vodafone has introduced a similar scheme which has a monthly subscription of £15 and charges 35p a minute for peak-rate calls.

For both Cellnet and Vodafone, attracting more customers to their digital networks frees valuable capacity on their increasingly crowded analogue networks.

All-rounder

FROM next month ICL will sell a PC, priced from £1,500, which will also work as a TV, and play CDs and CD-Roms.

ICL says the "smart charcoal-grey exterior" will look as good in any room as a hi-fi or video recorder. The Indiana, as it has been dubbed, includes Nicam digital stereo sound and can be used to call up and store teletext information into a computer file.

Hot topic

THE advent of Satan on the Internet could raise hell with security. Satan is a new piece of software designed to find any chinks in the armour of computers connected to the outside world by phone line or network. It was made available on Wednesday on several Internet-connected computers around the world.

The idea is that it could help managers to plug cracks in security, but some fear it will also help malicious hackers by showing them weak spots in defences.

Chinese links

IBM is spending more than £15 million in China to establish university-related programmes in advanced computer technology.

Under the agreement, signed with the Chinese state education commission, IBM will use the money to provide computer equipment, staff support, scholarships and grants. The money will also be used to develop the China education and research network which links colleges around the country.

Dylan hit

A CD-Rom of Bob Dylan's career and some of his music sold 45,000 copies in the first month after its issue in February.

Bob Dylan: Highway 61 Interactive starts in New York's Greenwich Village in the early 1960s and finishes in New York City's Supper Club where Dylan did four free shows in November 1993, two songs of which are included on the disc.

Infotech is edited by Matthew May. E-mail address: matt __ times@delphi.com

IBS

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A big hand of applause

A new Timex watch, right, which acts as a phone book, diary, and memo pad has gone on sale this week

Portable computers may no longer be burdened with the job of keeping electronic schedules, diaries, messages and address books. Two new gadgets from Timex and Seiko suggest that it might be the watch, rather than the portable computer, that will soon be taking on this job.

This week the Timex Data Link watch went on sale in Britain at £120. It is capable of working with special personal computer software co-developed with Microsoft to allow information to be moved from a PC to the watch.

Transferring information involves taking the material already keyed in on the computer and converting it into a series of on-screen bars, not unlike a sequence of bar codes.

By placing the watch up to the screen, the information keyed into the PC is transferred optically into the computer memory of the watch. Data that can be transferred from the PC to the watch includes diary information, phone numbers, lists of chores to do, settings for alarms and short-text memos.

In fact, if you don't mind having to squint a bit to read your watch, most of the type of useful information on electronic notepads can be put into the Timex Data Link. And with a watch, unlike a notepad, you cannot mislay the information: it is there at all times strapped to your wrist.

One drawback when using the watch, however, is that there is no way of editing the information without getting back to a PC and then transferring updated information into the watch. If an appointment changes, or you need to add something urgent to your "to do" list while you are away from your personal computer, the watch is not much help.



In America the Seiko Message Watch goes one step further. It is designed to receive data and messages "live" over wireless radio links and can thus be used to read and receive electronic mail.

The Message Watch uses Frequency Modulated (FM) subcarriers to broadcast messages sent to the Seiko's electronic messaging centres. The watch sells for about $80 (£50) while subscribers to the message service pay $6.95 (£4.30) a month.

In addition to electronic mail messages, the watch is designed to receive pager messages and weather forecasts.

For the moment, Seiko is limited to deploying the watch in places where it has the necessary communications links to support these functions.

Its use, therefore, is as yet restricted to a few locations in America but potentially the idea could work as an alternative to both traditional pocket pagers and some forms of pocket computers.

As with the latest "personal digital assistants" that combine pocket computing with mobile communications, the real key to success will lie in the availability and effectiveness of their communications networks.

GEOF WHEELWRIGHT

Operations and Procurement Director

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The information superhighway is full of opportunity, says George Cole

You have probably heard of the Internet. You may even be on it. Its rapid growth is also providing job opportunities. Experts in this fledgeling information superhighway are starting to make a living providing consultancy services to the growing number of companies looking at the Internet as a new business opportunity.

Andrew Baul-Lewis, senior analyst at the research company Dataquest Europe, says that though most companies on the Internet are using it only for electronic mail, the number of new products and services being provided is likely to increase rapidly.

He says: "The problem at present is security — how can you ensure that a credit-card number sent over the Internet is safe? But within 18 months this will be solved. Then we will see all sorts of services on the Internet, such as electronic catalogues and other promotional devices, financial information, and share-selling.

"The market for Internet consultancy is big, and many companies using the system do not have a definite business plan. Many are looking for people who can answer questions such as: 'How do I set up an Internet site? How much does it cost? How much information do I need to put on the site? And how do I promote my business?' There are not that many people with the skills to offer this type of advice."

Peter Lomas is European managing director of Stratacom, a company that recently added Internet consultancy to its services. Stratacom has about 670 employees in 21 offices around the world, but Mr Lomas says that there is no reason why someone with a good knowledge of the Internet cannot set themselves up as a consultant working from home.

He says: "A lot of companies have their own private networks." At the same time, he adds, they are putting many of their operations out to contract, so they can concentrate on their core business. "They are looking for people to advise, set up and, in some cases, even run their communications operations. This is a growing business."

He adds that though big companies are likely to go to large and established consultancy companies, many small firms could turn to smaller outfits.

Richard Davies set up his Internet consultancy company, Good Technology, last year. Based in London, it has two full-time staff and one part-time employee, and specialises in technology for the music industry. Clients include leading companies, such as EMI, MCA, Geffen, Warner, PolyGram, and Creation Records.

Mr Davies, 31, studied biochemistry at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology. On leaving university, he joined EMI as a graduate trainee, eventually becoming product manager. He joined MCA Records in 1989 and left the company in early 1994.

"I decided to leave MCA and set up my own consultancy. But when I told people what I was doing, many of them had not even heard of the Internet. A lot has changed since then."

Good Technology helps music companies to set up sites on a part of the Internet known as the World Wide Web, which allows users to access a mix of pictures, text and — with the right hardware and software — sound and video clips as well.

"We give our clients advice on how to set up a Web site — what types of services and information to offer music fans, and how to keep things fresh," Mr Davies says.

"We can also produce the Web pages for them. Now I am talking to a number of advertising companies interested in using the Internet.

"I know there are some companies, whose products you would not normally associate with computers, that are looking to use the Internet to promote their brand or image."



ADRIAN BROOKS

Richard Davies: "When I told people what I was doing, many of them had not even heard of the Internet. A lot has changed since then"

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Hotline boost for homework

George Cole on a telephone service which keeps parents up to date on the latest prep

An Essex school has launched a service that will strike terror into the hearts of many idle pupils — a 24-hour homework hotline. Parents at The Manningtree School in Essex can call the hotline to receive details of the day's homework schedule.

It means that the days when a student could return home after school and falsely claim that they had not been set any homework should be over. Manningtree, an 11 to 16 comprehensive, launched the homework hotline last month.

Parents can call up prerecorded messages stored in a series of voice mailboxes. They can also use the hotline to hear information about GCSE coursework, holiday dates, school news and any emergencies — such as the late arrival of the school coach.

Another local school, St Helena, also has a homework hotline. Each member of staff has an individual mailbox for leaving messages. They are part of a service called Info-Connect, launched by Essex County Newspapers last autumn. The service has 10,000 voice mailboxes, which can be hired by local businesses and services for advertising or providing information. The system is controlled by a computer, and each mailbox can be accessed by up to 16 callers at the same time. It costs about £2 a week to rent a box, although the schools have been given 49 free mailboxes as part of a pilot project.

One advantage is that it is not a premium-rate telephone service — a three-minute off-peak call costs 5p. Other services offered include local traffic reports, news updates, restaurant guides and personal advice. Callers can also record messages for their local newspaper editor and their MEP.

The Info-Connect system was developed by the American publisher J. H. Zerbey, and has been used by its daily paper the *Pottsville Republican* (based in Pennsylvania) for several years. Each day, the paper publishes dozens of voice mailbox numbers, and most local calls are free.

School telephone information services are quite widely used in America — 21 schools in Kansas have them, for example. A study revealed that when schools installed a phone hotline, between a third and a half of the parents used the service, the homework completion rate rose to more than 90 per cent and parental involvement dramatically increased. Many of the American homework hotlines are sponsored by local business which is something Manningtree is hoping to attract when the pilot project ends.

Tony Rivett, deputy head at Manningtree School, says that the hotline improves the links between home and school. "We send a lot of letters home, but they don't always reach parents — it is not uncommon to find a letter buried at the bottom of sports bag weeks after it went out. The hotline helps us to keep in touch with parents."

In the past, Manningtree set up a telephone answering machine service for parents of first-year students wanting homework information. The system was well received, but answering machines are not as flexible as a voice mailbox system.

The hotline mailboxes are accessed by entering a number on a telephone keypad and can be easily updated. At the end of each school day, a teacher collects the homework information and calls into the system. After entering a security code, the teacher records new messages in the appropriate mailboxes. The process takes about ten minutes a day.

Mr Rivett says that the hotline is designed to help students, rather than simply for parents to check up on them. For instance, if students forget to write down their homework, or lose their term planner, they can call up the hotline.

In its first week of service it received more than 200 calls. The school's administration staff say they also benefit, as many day-to-day queries can be answered by the hotline. There are also plans to use some mailboxes for parents to record non-urgent messages.

Mr Rivett thinks that the demand for telephone services such as the homework hotline can only grow in Britain. "They will never replace parent meetings, but they can give parents up-to-date information at the end of the phone."

CHRIS HARRIS



Tony Rivett and pupils: the homework hotline improves the links between home and school, he says

First the mouse, now it's animal crackers

A user-friendly guide to software

BOB is a big yellow smiling face which wears glasses and is part of Microsoft's attempt to make software easier to use by employing cute animal characters. They appear in a new program which promises to automate eight household tasks.

One of them, Bob's dog Rover, will fetch information for you. Java is a dinosaur who drinks coffee, while Orby is a friendly Earth globe and Hopper is a bunny who looks as if he has been using amphetamines. Each character is designed to have a unique personality.

If you cannot figure out how to use the Letter Writer program, for example, an animal called Shelley the Turtle will help you.

Bob also includes a calendar, cheque management program, household manager, address book, e-mail, financial guide and Geo Safari, a quiz game. Additionally, it will let you launch other programs by pointing and clicking, or by asking Blythe the Bee for help.

Unfortunately it can take as many as 17 clicks with Bob to open a file. Most computer users will not stand for that for very long. However, Bob cannot be beaten for ease of use. The animals seem to know everything and children can run programs easily.

Choosing a colour printer for the home

What qualities should you look for when shopping around for a machine?

Personal computers have marched into homes up and down the land and astonished us with their multimedia talents. But when it comes to putting things down on paper, most of us are locked into a monochromatic past.

Your screen may sing and dance in thousands of colours, yet when you print your work, everything is reduced to a world of black and white.

Those of us who have been using PCs for a decade or so are so used to the idea that we scarcely give it a second thought. But new PC owners have different ideas. Black and white cuts no ice with children who want copies of their natural history projects in every possible hue and tint.

The colour watershed in my household was Microsoft's "Fine Artist" children's painting package which lets junior Rembrandts throw colour at a screen by the bucketful. So the hunt for a family colour printer began.

First of all we tried one of the cheapest colour printers on the market, the Star SJ-144. This is a thermal transfer machine which runs on a ribbon like that found in electric typewriters. The colour was, to be frank, appalling, the speed so slow the young could fit in an episode of the BBC cartoon *Animaniacs* between masterpieces, and the cost per page about 75p.

The only saving grace was the price — about £220 — and its use as a fashion accessory. The Star can print transfers on to special paper which you can then iron on to T-shirts.

Inkjets do a better job of matching the colour on screen to that on the page. But they have their quirks. Some have four inks, cyan, yellow, magenta and black. Others use only the coloured inks and print black by combining all three, usually producing a black that is rather purple, a little ragged around the edges and not particularly suitable for everyday letter-writing.



Printers: pay £220 to £400

The difference in print quality can be substantial if you mix colour images with black text on the same page. Canon's popular BJC-600 and 4000 machines — each costing more than £400 — print true black alongside the colours and turned out the best results of the machines looked at, though at a fairly high price per page of 30p to 50p.

However, in the eyes of its young users, there was little difference between the colour from the Canon machines and that of the cheapest inkjet we found, Olivetti's JP360, which is advertised for just £225.

The Olivetti claims costs of about 7p for colour pages and, using a separate refillable black ink cartridge, little more than a halfpenny for mono ones. So is it worth paying another £150 or more to get better black type alongside your colour artwork?

Many home PC users use a printer rarely. Machines such as the Olivetti, which lets you swap between cheap black cartridges and expensive colour ones very easily, are an ideal happy medium unless you really must have the top quality output of machines like those from Canon.

If you are running a business from home, you should think seriously about whether inkjets make sense at all. There is a business side to colour. Inkjets can normally cope with overhead projection paper and churn out handsome colour transparencies for presentations.

However, using the same machine to originate lots of colour pages — say for invoices — is rarely practical. It will be cheaper and produce better results if you have a colour letterhead pre-printed and then print the black page on your pre-printed material.

Whatever the manuals may claim for monthly print capacities, these are not designed to be volume machines. A run of 50 business letters will pop quietly out of a decent laser, such as the Brother 630, in about eight minutes; the average inkjet will take the best part of half an hour.

The price of mono lasers is also falling rapidly. Morgan, the discount house, recently set a benchmark with the first sub-£200 laser from Mannesmann Tally. You need to add VAT to that — and, preferably, a megabyte of internal RAM at £30 plus VAT to speed up printing — but it is still a reasonable, if slightly old-fashioned, office machine at a consumer price.

DAVID HEWSON

Half board and PC, please

Hotels are tempting the high-tech customer

More and more hotels are offering their guests the use of a personal computer and access to online services, *Geof Wheelwright writes*. At the Churchill International Hotel in London, for example, businesss travellers staying on the club floors can hire a personal computer for £9.50 a day, complete with modem.

In North America some hotel chains are taking up the trend quickly, with fax machines, PCs and printers put in some rooms. Having a fax machine and printer in your hotel room eliminates the need to fiddle with fax modems and fax modem software. It also means that a customer can send and receive faxes directly, without worrying that they are going to get lost, or read, in the hotel's business office.

Much of the effort behind new kinds of computer-oriented hotel rooms in America is directed at making computer communications easier and cheaper.

Business users are frustrated by having constantly to pay for every call they make to a local online service from their hotel room when most American telephone companies do not charge for local calls.

The US Radisson Hotel chain now offers fax services without surcharge — as well as free telephone and computer line access for local, 800 number and credit card calls, and a data port for computer modem hook-ups.

In Britain the problem is the huge mark-up put on phone calls by most hotels. This means that customers with mobile phones find it far cheaper to use them, even when in their rooms. Going online for a couple of hours in a British hotel room can be expensive.

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THEATRE page 35

Lucy Whybrow plays Juliet in Adrian Noble's updated Romeo and Juliet at Stratford

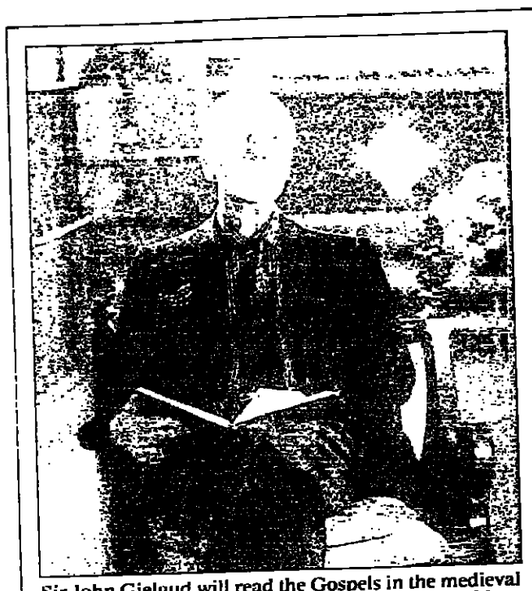
ARTS

POP page 37

Never mind the music, feel the artwork: a fair verdict on Wet Wet

Wet's latest album?





Sir John Gielgud will read the Gospels in the medieval church of All Saints in Hillesden, Buckinghamshire

And now, the unauthorised versions

Some of Britain's top poets will give the Gospels a provocative new twist on television in Holy Week. **Richard Morrison** reports

Our greatest actor sits in a darkened 12th-century church and reads from the Gospels, while the camera scans a whole gallery's worth of Crucifixion paintings. It does not sound like the most original broadcasting idea ever devised for Holy Week, and even the magnificent presence of Sir John Gielgud — honeyed voice quivering with holy fervour — might not by itself dispel the suspicion that this is just another safe and cosy religious programme.

But *Words from Jerusalem*, which goes out on BBC1 every night next week, has another dimension. Joan Bakewell, who devised it, has asked nine of Britain's most distinguished contemporary poets to respond to the story of Christ's trial and Crucifixion. Their poems, delivered compellingly by the authors themselves, are intercut with Gielgud's majestic progress through the Authorised Version. The effect is to add a distinctly wry — even provocative — gloss to the biblical story.

"We wanted to provide as wide a range of contemporary poetic responses as possible, in style, accessibility and attitude," says Jack Emery, producer for The Drama House, which made the programmes. "There was no question of using only poets who believe."

Thus the poems range from James Fenton's sceptical *Jerusalem* — a powerful portrayal of an intolerant world, which almost reads like a sequel to Matthew Arnold's *Dover Beach* — to the triumphant affirmation of Peter Levi's *Easter 1995*: "I am washed as white as a clean bone/And shall arise out of my death and shine/And be revived and go where He has gone."

Liverpool poet Roger McGough puts himself in the shoes of Judas Iscariot's father in a poem (wryly titled *The Father and the Son*) that imagines the frustrated fury of those who expected Christ to lead an uprising against Rome. Guyanan-born John Agard, in a gripping poem called *Lucifer's Canticle for Gethsemane*, depicts the feelings of Satan as he watches Christ resist one final temptation.

Simon Armitage, in the slightly facetious *The Morning After the Night Before*, puts a monologue into Simon Peter's mouth after his threefold denial of Christ. Similarly, Carol Ann Duffy has Pilate's wife amplifying on her dream in very unchurchy fashion ("I woke, sweating, sexual, terrified").

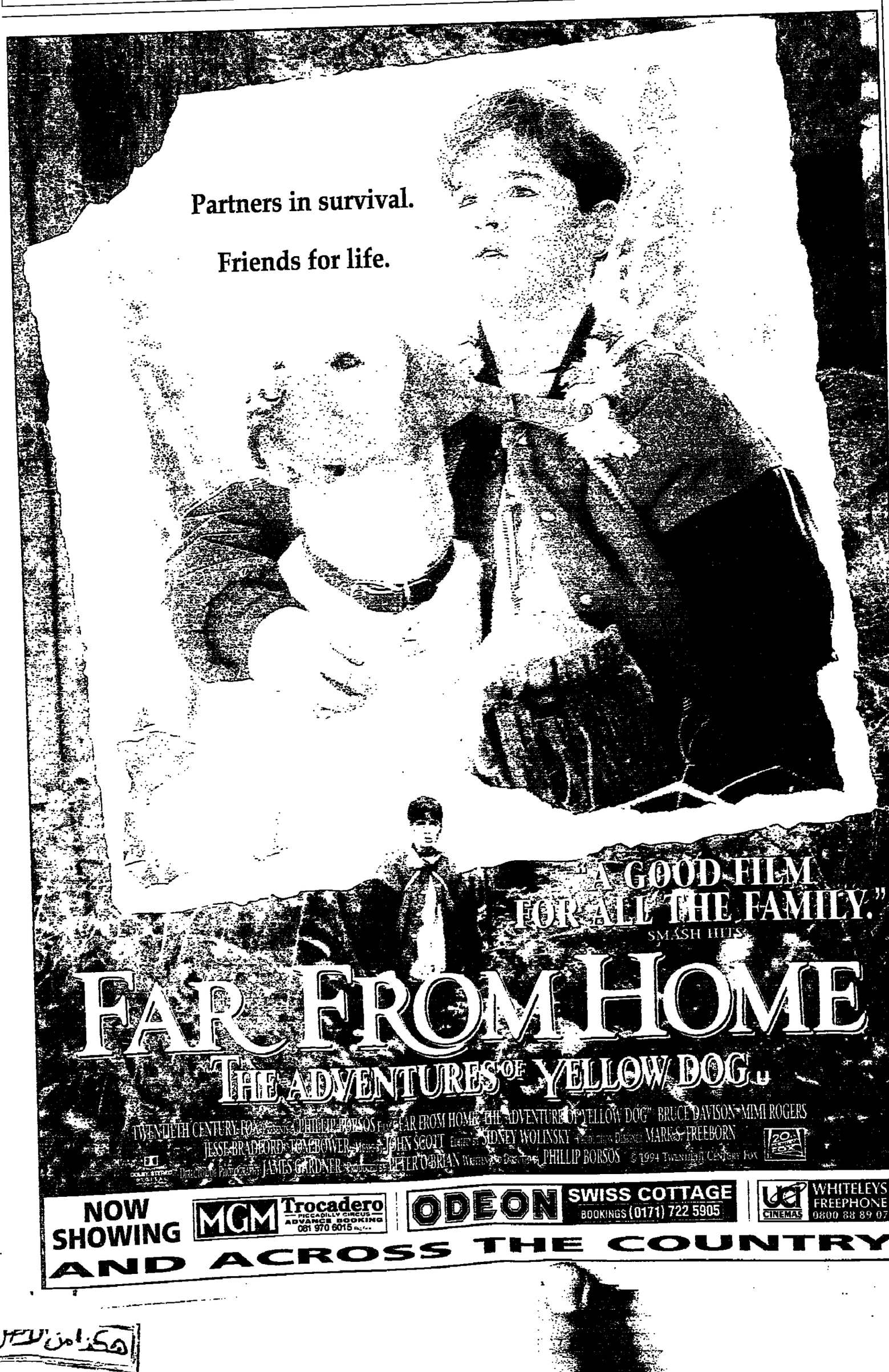
I cannot say that I responded positively to every poem. Pauline Stainer's *Wound for a Crucifixion* seems to come straight from the Precocious Fourth-Form School of Poetry ("below the level of the crucified/angels clarify like syrups"). But eight out of nine hits is not a bad strike-rate for any anthology.

Emery believes his programmes demonstrate that "it is rubbish to say there has been a divorce between poetry and religion". Well, perhaps. But the great flood of Christian verse that extended from Donne and Milton to Eliot has undeniably abated.

In part, that reflects the wider cultural references available today. The contemporary poet can write a perfectly fine "religious" poem without dipping into metaphors specific to Christianity. But the comparative decline in Christian verse does also reflect poorly on the "taste-makers" of today's churches: the priests who prefer the mindless blather of evangelical choruses to the provocative beauty of the well-crafted verse. Roger McGough, a practising Catholic, speaks for many when he says that he wishes poets had been recruited to improve the writing of the service-rites so blandly and prosaically devised in recent years.

One week's worth of programmes won't rectify that, of course. But they do prove that resourceful writers can make something fresh and startling out of even the most familiar of stories. Fine poetry is a propaganda weapon that the Church discards at its peril.

● *Words from Jerusalem begins on Sunday (BBC1) at 11.20pm. The poems are published next week by BBC Education, price £4.95, available from PO Box 7, London W5 2GQ*



JAZZ: A master-class in versatility

Reticence cannot hide her talent

Barbara Dickson
Café Royal

Barbara Dickson makes life extremely difficult for reviewers. Just when you thought you had pinned her down as a folkie turned MOR rocker with a yen for James Taylor, along comes a brittle reworking of Kurt Weill's *September Song* or a romp through *Political Science*, a Randy Newman hand grenade tossed towards insular Middle America. Dickson has been confounding expectations elsewhere, delivering a feisty, hollow-eyed performance in *Band of Gold*, Granada's unglamorous drama series about streetwalkers.

For her visit to the Café Royal she had, thankfully, exchanged the garish, low-rent outfits for a chic dark suit. Her choice of material was equally sophisticated, even if the combination of colours and tones was rather less orthodox.

Not many singers would dare perform the Depression-era lament *Brother, Can You Spare A Dime?* in the same set as a ballad from *Sunset Boulevard*. Dickson has enough sensitivity to make the transition without slipping into bathos. That soaring voice would be worth hearing even if it only had the Green Room's menu to work with.

The great advantage of hearing her in a small venue is that nothing gets in the way of the vocals. No ponderous drum beat, no churning, over-amplified keyboards. Instead, Dickson receives delicately shaded support from Jerry Stephenson's low-key guitar, Barry Thompson's piano and, above all, the versatile saxophones and flute of Pete Zorn.

After opening with *The Caravan Song*, Dickson zigzagged through ballads by Sandy Denny, Sondheim and one of Randy Newman's more tender compositions, *Sandman's Coming*. *Love Hurts*, the theme song from *Band of Gold*, was left for the encore, the slow tempo yielding the full measure of sorrow.

Even today a certain shyness infuses her live act — as if, after all these years, she is still unsure that the audience is willing to follow her. On some numbers you long for her to cut loose and let the emotions flow more freely. Her version of *(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman* lacked the passion of Aretha Franklin's.



Dickson: rare repertoire

If Dickson appears reticent, she also brings an actress's insights to a lyric. She could, if she wished, emerge as a more homely version of the would-be sex kitten Ute Lemper. Unlike Lemper, Dickson does not need to keep showing off her legs in order to draw us into her world. The voice does the work.

CLIVE DAVIS

RECITAL: Russian song at its finest

Grand passions from Kirov stars

Diadkova/Gergieva
Wigmore Hall

THE two mighty Larissas of St Petersburg bestrode the Wigmore Hall stage on Tuesday, as part of the continuing Maryinsky-Kirov song-recital series. Larissa Diadkova is one of the Kirov's leading mezzo-sopranos. She has been heard, and remembered, in Britain ever since her parts in *Iolanta*, *Alexander Nevsky* and *Kashchkei the Immortal*. Larissa Gergieva is pianist and *répétiteur* supreme and, as well as providing unforgettable accompaniments for many singers in this series, has prepared *Otello* for her brother, Valery, to conduct.

• Unlike some of her colleagues, Diadkova directs the audience's attention solely to the music, never to herself. Yet, within each vivid salon drama in a group of Glinka songs, one constantly marvelled at the effortless integration and impetus of a voice that could fling out the flame of desire at one moment, only to confide, as if to a single audience member, at the next.

This ability to find seemingly infinite resources of power in both the chest and the head voice, without the listener ever being distracted away from the core of the music, is Diadkova's particular skill. Sets and lighting, as it were, were provided by the heightened imagination and rare technique of Gergieva's piano playing for Ratmir's long recitative and aria from *Ruslan and Ludmilla*. If a London piano in a London hall can sound like this, complaints from certain quarters could bear re-examination.

After the interval, Diadkova and Gergieva turned to the poison and poignancy of two songs by Borodin, before a chilling interpretation of Mussorgsky's *Songs and Dances of Death*. Here was Death minutely characterised: with the tenderness of a mother, the sensuousness of a lover, the menace of a dancemaster and the eternal victorious command of a field marshal. His act could be followed, his shadow dispelled, only by a *coup* of programming such as Shostakovich's *Two Fables*: some Dragonfly, this: some Ant: some Nightingale!

HILARY FINCH

THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** on Shakespeare's missing ingredients; plus uneven Molière

Sonneteering without the sex

Romeo and Juliet
Royal Shakespeare Theatre

As Zubin Varla's Romeo gives Lucy Whybrow's Juliet a parting kiss, and prepares to swallow his Mickey Finn, an unusual thing happens. The supposed corpse's arm rises behind his back as if to return his embrace and, still unseen by him, falls back. Romeo is, just seconds from twigging that Juliet is alive. If only the Mantuan apothecary had used a modern safety-cap, the kind that takes a good minute to twist open, maybe Shakespeare would have written one tragedy less and one romantic comedy more.

Forgive the facetiousness, but there is something about Adrian Noble's production that fails to forestall it. The evening is strongish on detail and often handsome to look at. There are one or two performances that work well, and one or two that don't work at all. But some essential ingredients are missing. Do we see why the lovers behave so self-destructively or care very much when they actually destroy themselves? Speaking for myself, no and no again.

It is unwise to lay down laws about Shakespearean production, for an inspired director will always rewrite them. But the most successful revivals of *Romeo* I have seen have directly linked Verona and the lovers. There is a madness, a danger, almost a collective death-wish in the hot, humid air that affects everyone, and explains a marriage which Juliet herself calls "rash, unadvised and sudden". But though the production opens with a Capulet rudely knocking a coffee cup out of a Montague's hands, I did not sense very much of that in and around the café that half-fills the Chirico-like piazza Kendra Ullyart has designed for Noble's early 20th-century idlers.

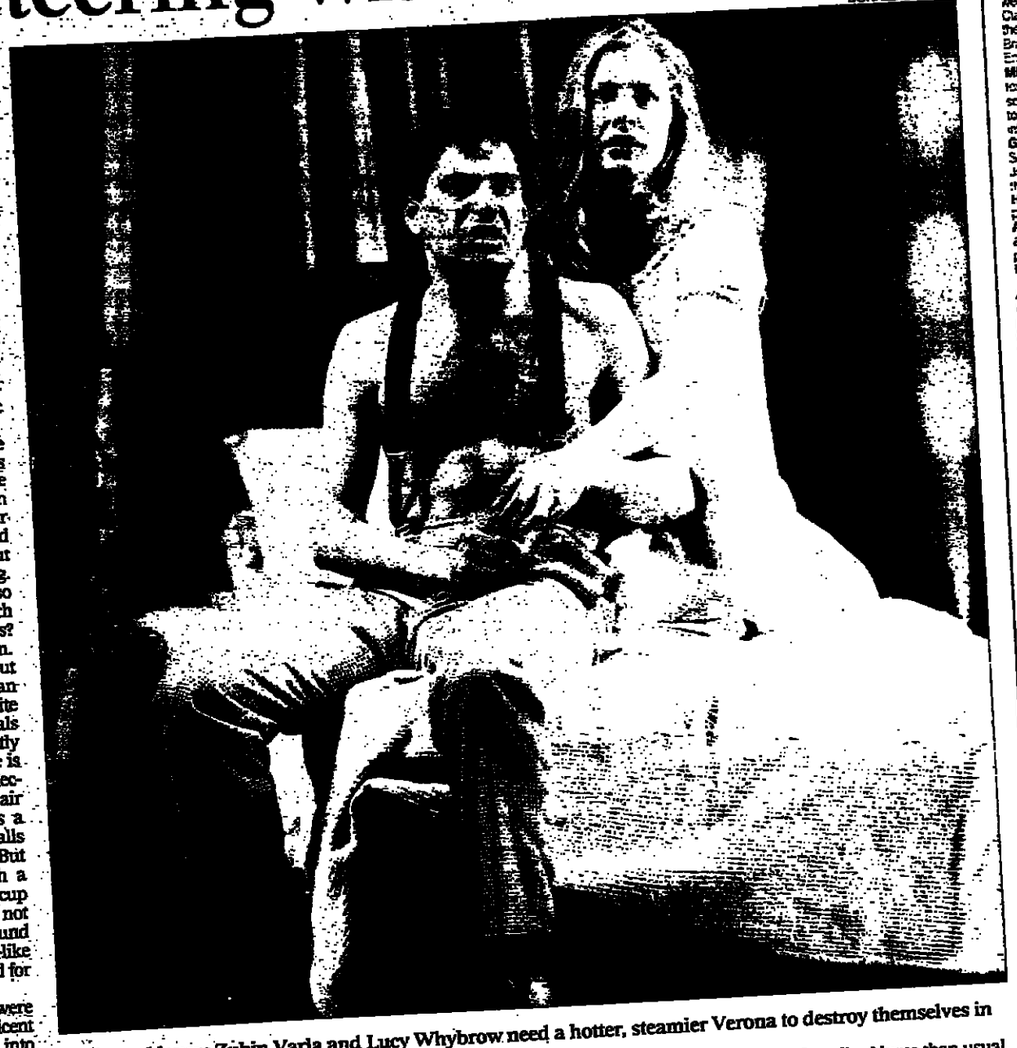
Nor did I sense it when we were taken behind Capulet's magnificent wrought-iron gates and plunged into what was less an improvised party, more a lavish coming-out ball for Juliet. Neither Christopher Benjamin nor Darlene Johnson, playing her parents, does enough in the early stages to prepare us for the seemingly unmotivated savagery with which they treat her later. Dermot Kerrigan's Tybalt could be more unruly and, more importantly, so could Mark Lockyer's Mercutio.

Mercutios nowadays tend to exude more modern *ennui* than traditional charm, but seldom so oddly. Lockyer is less angry and violent, as Bernard Lloyd and Tim McInnerney were, than clownish and a bit unhinged. His comrades stop the Queen Mab speech, not because it is getting boring, but because it is edging him towards nervous breakdown. I would diagnose sexual insecurity (a drag disguise for Capulet's ball) and alcoholism (a funny line sadly garbled). Whatever the clinical picture, it does not explain why the lovers are what they are.

So what of them? Both emphasise youth and inexperience rather than endemic wildness. Varla's voice is light, high and callow, as if it had broken not long ago. Whybrow goes further, suggesting a restlessness and shrill impatience behind her undoubted simplicity and sweetness. Though Varla might beef up his reaction to the news of Juliet's death, which is absurdly bloodless, both are effective enough when they are required to writhe about on the ground. But you don't feel that their emotions run very deep, or that there is much sexual excitement in their wooing and sonneteering.

A supporting cast includes Susan Brown, who tries bravely but unwisely to give us a less dim Nurse than usual, and, more successfully, Julian Glover as a Scots-accented Lawrence. He not only combines authority with wryness but suggests that the Friar fancies himself as a pristine Fleming, a boffin who can perform white magic with fungi and herbs. This hubris, as much as anything, is the lovers' undoing. Glover's performance is original, fascinating and worrying. After all, there must be something wrong with a *Romeo and Juliet* in which the pick of the performers is an old hermit.

DONALD COOPER



Doomed lovers Zubin Varla and Lucy Whybrow need a hotter, steamier Verona to destroy themselves in

Earth-bound comedians

George Dandin
The Cochrane, WC1

Red Shift is touring Molière's rarely seen comedy, adapted by Ranjit Bolt. Jonathan Holloway's production kicks off with wordless clowning, seemingly getting into the swing of commedia dell'arte. Lubin, the slow-witted go-between, is trying to get over the wall into Monsieur Dandin's property. He is bringing Clitandre's billet-doux to Dandin's wife, the ironically named Angelique. Lubin prepares to jump. He crouches down. And down. And down a bit more. Abandoning that, he scrambles up sideways. He gets a leg on the ledge. Next thing, he is hanging from his toes.

Simon Hunt's bendy Lubin is a clod poll with cute appeal. However, this prologue metaphorically sums up the show. The comedy never quite gets off the ground. The bouts of physical farce are neither exuberant nor organic.

They are niftily executed and the rumpy-pumpy is outré. Adultery is committed right under Dandin's nose, or rather under Angelique's skirts, while he merely moans about her petulant manners. Bolt, transporting provincial France to Yorkshire, is free with the script, as Angelique's maid (Stephanie Woodcraft) encourages Clitandre to "go f'r it" with Madame. Woodcraft is spirited, even coming on strong to Clitandre herself.

Nevertheless, Holloway's casting is uneven. The class difference is insufficiently fleshed out. Malcolm Ridley as the *nouveau-riche* Dandin is only sporadically common as muck. The snobbery of his penniless, pedigree father-in-law needs more bite. The mother-in-law is cut, denying us a double-act. Sally Giles's Angelique is amusing and makes a bold speech defending her sexuality and condemning arranged marriages. She mars her rhyming couplets, though. Meanwhile, Ridley lacks the bullishness of a wife-belter. His jealousy and final pain do not plumb the depths pointed to by composer Paul Clay's edgy period harmonies.

Visually the show is delightful. Bright silk costumes glow against cream walls, the reduced architectural scale elongating the gentlemen into frills-on-sticks. If only the acting were up to the *mise-en-scène*, score and script.

KATE BASSETT

LONDON

UNDER MILK WOOD Roger Michell directs Dylan Thomas's justly celebrated evocation of the little town of Llareggub. **National** (Olivier, South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252) Previews begin tonight, 7.15pm, opens Apr 13, 7pm.

MUSIC AT THE SOUTH BANK. The weekend opens with a lighthearted Classics for Pleasure "Special" from the **London Philharmonic**; Martyn Brabbins conducts with clarinettist Emma Johnson. The three-week **Michael Nyman** jamboree also starts tonight, with an all-night feast of Nyman soundtrack films and continues tomorrow when the Nyman Band blasts into action. Percussionist **Evelyn Glennie** is also a headline draw on Saturday when she and harpist Ieuan Jones join the Bournemouth Sinfonietta; the **Bach Choir** and pianist **Andreas Haefliger** take over for daytime Sunday performances. Performance artist **Annie Griffin** is also on stage Saturday and Sunday with her latest film/theatre project.
Box Office 0171-928 8800.

A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE. Opening night for David Thacker's production, acclaimed in Bristol and Birmingham. Bernard Hill is superb as the NY longshoreman consumed by unspeakable love for his niece, with Charlotte Cornwell, Alan MacNaughtan

WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

Strand, Aldwych WC2 (0171-930 8800) Tonight, 7pm Then Tue-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs 2pm, Sat and Sun 3pm

ELSEWHERE

DERBY The National Portrait Gallery's excellent **Edwardian Women Photographers** opens here this weekend, focussing on the careers of four pioneers: Evaleen Myers, Alice Hughes, Christina Broom and Olive Edis. Also opening this week is David Mamet's masterly **Oleanna**. Jonathan Church directs the Playhouse's production of the American university sexual harassment drama.
Derby Museum and Art Gallery, The Strand (01332 255563) Mon, 11am-5pm, Tue-Sat, 10am-5pm; Sun, 2-5pm. Sat until May 21 **Playhouse**, Eagle Centre (363275) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm mat Apr 22, 2.45pm Until Apr 29.

LIVERPOOL: Fresh from her sell-out London run, **Dianne Reeves** shows off her stunning multi-octave voice here on Sunday. Reeves has sometimes been tempted to cross over to a bland soul-pop formula but her recent return to jazz roots gives impressive results
Everyman, Hope Street, (0151-709 4776) Sun, 7.30pm Then in **Colchester**, Arts Centre (0206 577301) on Tues.

EDINBURGH. The young playwright Colin MacDonald has dramatised Nancy Brysson Morrison's **The Gowk Storm** especially for the Lyceum. Kenny Ireland directs the award-winning story of the passion and lost innocence of three sisters, set in a remote Scottish parish in the 1850s.
Royal Lyceum, Grindlay Street (0131-229 9697). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Apr 15, 19 and 22, 3.15pm. Until Apr 22.

BIRMINGHAM: Libor Pesek conducts the **Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra** tomorrow for a programme of favourite Mozart operatic arias, the overture, *The Marriage of Figaro* and Smetana's popular patriotic poems, *Ma Vlast* (My Country). Mezzo Dagmar Peckova is the soloist
Symphony Hall, Broad Street (0121-212 3333) Sat, 8pm.

WATFORD Yolande Snaith Theatredance gives the UK premiere of its newest work, Swinger, on Sunday. Snaith's work generally has a greater emphasis on theatre rather than dance but always offers striking visual treats. See for yourself
Palace, Clarendon Road, (01923 225671). Sun, 7.30pm.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
□ **Seats at all prices**

□ **AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'** Exhilarating song 'n' dance show created from the hits of Fats Waller. Non-stop energy on feet.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm

□ **CONVERSATIONS WITH MY FATHER.** Judd Hirsch re-creates his Tony Award-winning performance in Herb Gardner's play, covering 40 years of Jewish experience in New York. When all's told, it's fairly thin stuff. Alan Ayckbourn directs
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 7616) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm.

□ **DESIGN FOR LIVING.** Rachel Weisz, Rupert Graves and Marcus D'Amico in Coward's menage à trois comedy. Sean Mathias's award-winner, with even more sexual rough and tumble than at the Donmar
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm

□ **DUSKY WARRIORS** Award-winning play set in Brighton during the First World War when the authorities virtually imprisoned injured Indian soldiers lest white women be seen with them and risk unsettling the Raj. Jeff Teare's last production here.
Theatre Royal, Gerry Raffles Square, Stratford, E15 (0181-534 0310) Previews tonight and tomorrow, 8pm. Opens Mon, until May 6.

□ **IN PRAISE OF LOVE.** Peter Bowles and Lisa Harrow in Rattigan drama about bravely facing death. Interesting and finally touching as it shows the effects, ill and good, of emotional restraint.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm

◪ **INDIAN INK.** Felicity Kendal, Art Malik and Margaret Tyzack in Tom Stoppard's latest, witty, poignantly exploring aspects of Anglo-Indian resentments and respect.
Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ **LEAVE TAKING** The touring production of Winsome Pinnock's play returns for just seven performances: A West Indian woman and her adored daughters consult an obeah woman to cleanse their obsession with the past.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252) Tonight-Apr 12, 7.30pm, mats Apr 8 and 12, 2.30pm.

◪ **THE LOVERS** Touring production of Goldoni's *Gl'innamorati* here for a month. Roxana Silbert's direction goes for the strenuous *commedia* style and finally touching as it shows the effects, ill and good, of emotional restraint.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm

◪ **SIMPATICO** Ciaran Hinds, Sean McGinley and Elizabeth McGovern in Sam Shepard's first play for a decade. A shared secret from long ago connects two men now living very different lives
James Macdonald directs
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745). Now previewing, 7.30pm. Opens April 11, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3.30pm. Until May 13

□ **TWELFTH NIGHT** Ian Judge's delightful production from last year's Stratford. With Desmond Barrit as Malvolio and Emma Fielding as Viola, both irresistible
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight-Apr 15, 7.15pm; mats Apr 13 and 15, 2pm. Then in rep.

□ **UP'N'UNDER.** John Godber's rugby play, done by Hull Truck. Enthusiastic 'n' simple. Leave your brains in the changing room.
Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

NEW RELEASES

◆ **AN AWFULLY BIG ADVENTURE** (15): A teenager's post-war theatre experiences. Fascinating abrasive drama from Beryl Bainbridge's novel. Mike Newell directs Alan Rickman, Hugh Grant and newcomer Georgina Cates.
MGMs: Fulham Road ◪ (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

BLUE SKY (12). Modest film with an Oscar-winning performance by Jessica Lange as an army officer's sexy wife. Director, Tony Richardson.
NFT (071-928 3232)

◆ **DUMB & DUMBER** (12): Idiotic, good-natured comedy that outstays its welcome, with Jim Carrey and Jeff Daniels. Director, Peter Farrelly
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914088) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **FAR FROM HOME** (U): Apple-cheeked family film about a boy and his dog trekking home from a boatwreck. Director, Philip Borsos
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914088) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

LITTLE BIG LEAGUE (PG). A 12 year-old manages a baseball team. Dull, insanely long comedy, with Luke Edwards and Timothy Busfield.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683)

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

◆ **ONE HUNDRED AND ONE DALMATIANS** (U). Disney's pleasant, witty cartoon version of Dodie Smith's book about endangered puppies.
MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914088) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

POSTCARDS FROM AMERICA (18): Eye-grabbing fantasia on the life and wrongs of combative gay artist David Wojnarowicz. Director, Steve McLean.
ICA ◪ (0171-930 3647)

◆ **TERMINAL VELOCITY** (15). Sky-diver Charlie Sheen tangles with Nastassja Kinski in a dim-witted thriller with a few good stunts.
Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914088) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **IMMORTAL BELOVED** (15). Gary Oldman is Beethoven, but the film still ends up worthy and dull. With Jeroen Krabbe and Isabella Rossellini.
Empire (0800 888911) **MGM Fulham Road** ◪ (0171-370 2636)

◆ **JUST CAUSE** (18) Harvard law professor Sean Connery wrestles with a murder case in Florida. Ludicrous sweatgutsy thriller, with Laurence Fishburne. Director, Arne Glimcher
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **LITTLE WOMEN** (U): Fresh, tender, feminist version of the 19th-century classic, with Winona Ryder, Susan Sarandon, and Gabriel Byrne
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914088) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

THE MADNESS OF KING GEORGE (PG): Nigel Hawthorne reigns supreme as Alan Bennett's tormented monarch. A fine film transfer by stage director Nicholas Hytner, with Helen Mirren and Ian Holm.
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **Gate** ◪ (0171-727 4043) **Lumiere** (0171-836 0691) **MGMs: Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Screen/Hill** ◪ (0171-435 3566) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

NOBODY'S FOOL (15): Endearing slice of small-town Americana, with Paul Newman, Melanie Griffith, Bruce Willis and Jessica Tandy. Writer-director, Robert Benton.
Odeon West End (01426-915 574)

CURRENT

◆ **DISCLOSURE** (18): Michael Douglas says no to Demi Moore. Superficially enjoyable version of Michael Crichton's blockbuster.
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

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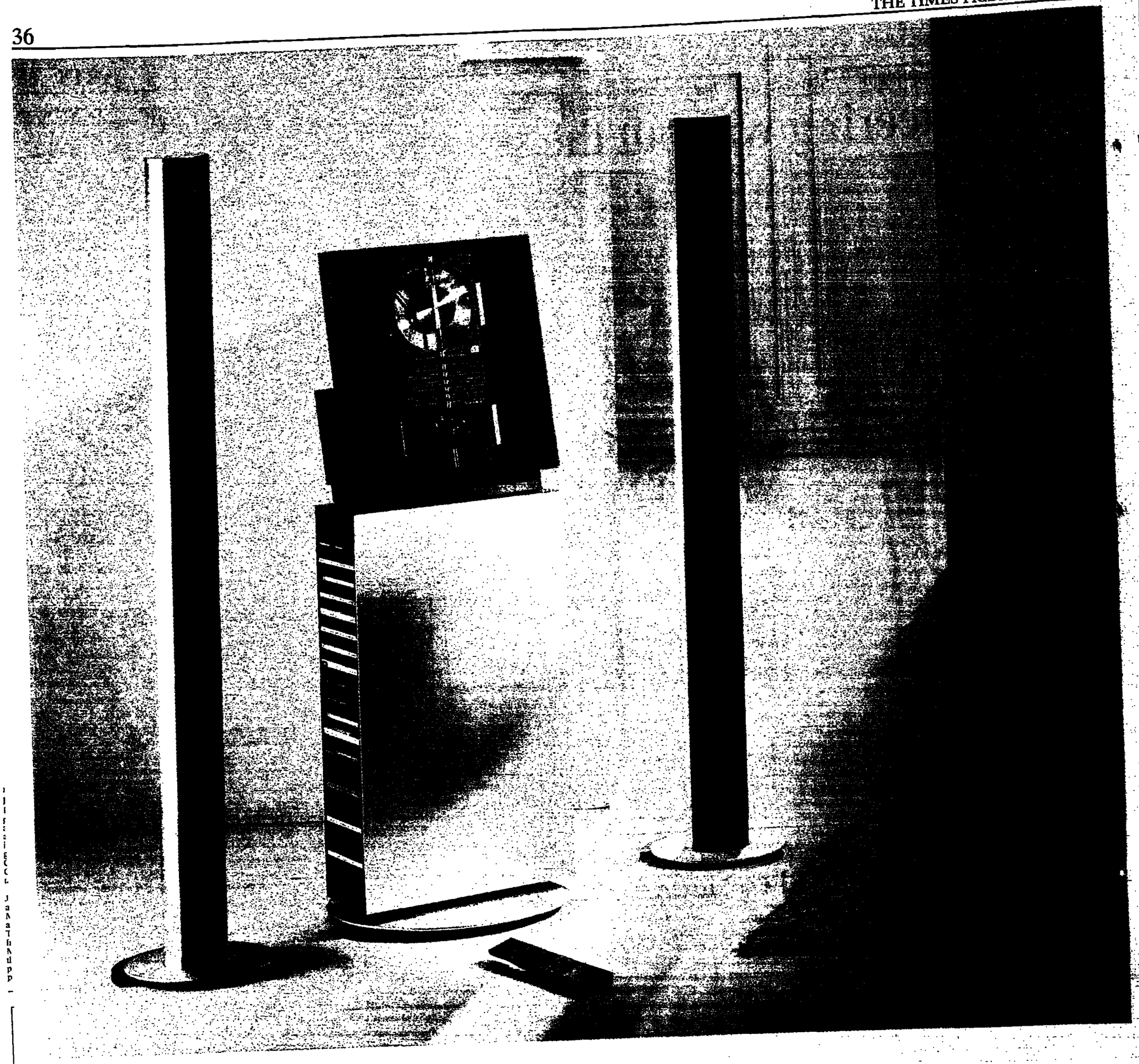
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POP ON FRIDAY: Wet Wet Wet positively dripping with sentiment



Making a mawkish picture: Wet Wet Wet have come up with a collection of mainstream love songs groaning under sumptuous pretensions

Des O'Connor, eat your heart out

NEW ALBUMS: What looked promising turns out to be a conservative appeal to the blue-rinse brigade, says **David Sinclair**

WET WET WET
Picture This
(Precious Organisation/ Mercury 526 851)
IF EVER an album came tooled up for success it is *Picture This*. The fact that it includes the biggest-selling British single of the decade, *Love is All Around*, and follows hard on the heels of the band's million-selling greatest-hits album, *End Of Part One*, is the least of it.

For, with its grand production, sumptuous string arrangements and lavish cover artwork commissioned from "a *Who's Who* of Scotland's leading artists", it is a record which arrives groaning under the weight of its own pretensions.

Not so much blue-eyed as blue-rinse soul, *Picture This* has a gilt-edged style and pace as conservative as a grandfather clock. In the year that Britain will be represented in the Eurovision Song Contest by a rap number, the Wets have come up with a selection of mainstream love songs that Des O'Connor might regard as staid.

"If you're there and you care/You will get a million kisses from me, somewhere, somehow," Marti Pellow croons with due gravity on *Somewhere, Somehow*, a lyric which is typical of the album's unfailingly sentimental tone.

In the world of 1990s pop, the line between posing for hordes of screaming teenage girls and reaching out to the twinset-and-pearls brigade is surprisingly thin. With this album the Wets seem to have vaulted straight over it without ever having lived a proper life in between.

ADAM ANT
Wonderful
(EMI 8 30335)
EVEN before he got into the movies it was hard to decide how much Adam Ant was a singer and how much an actor. Now that the roles are less obviously entangled, and the panto-mime videos have gone the way of the warpaint and lip-gloss, his occasional albums seem to lack character. Even so, at the ripening age of 40 the former pre-teen idol remains a canny pop strategist.

Rejoined by his most stalwart of Antpersons, guitarist Marco Pirroni, along with guitarist Boz Boorer (first mate in Morrissey's band), Ant has left the galloping tom-toms and kindergarten-punk anthems behind, and now specialises in a more thoughtful style of adult pop song. There is a confessional tone to the title track of *Wonderful* in which he recalls the time "I nearly hit the face I loved", and *Image Of Yourself* is an intriguing commentary on the subject of self-esteem: "You don't need a mirror/Believe that you're good enough".

There is a bit of sleaze here (*Beautiful Dream*), a cockney rap there (*Very Long Ride*), and a wodge of fairly indifferent material in between. As a reminder that Adam Ant is still around, *Wonderful* passes muster, but I wouldn't give up the acting classes just yet, if I were him.

KING CRIMSON
THRAK
(Discipline (GM)/Virgin 8 40324)
BRITAIN'S most recondite rockers, King Crimson have patrolled the shadowy frontiers of fusion music at irregular intervals since 1969. Led, as always, by the guitarist and progressive rock guru Robert Fripp, their last tour of duty was in 1984 when they released the album *Three of a Perfect Pair*.

Miraculously, the line-up on *THRAK* remains virtually the same as it was 11 years ago, namely Fripp, Adrian Belew (guitar/vocals), Tony Levin (bass), and Bill Bruford (drums), now augmented by Trey Gunn (stick) and Pat Masteloto (percussion).

When virtuosi musicians of this calibre come together, the results can sometimes be impenetrable, and parts of *THRAK* — notably its onomatopoeic title track — are both complex and abrasive. But despite its long instrumental stretches, broken up by Below's John Lennon/David Byrne-influenced vocals, this album is never gratuitously weird or difficult. Indeed, much of it sounds wonderful, especially Bruford's drum solo on *B'Boom*, a brief, well-ordered piece which confirms him as the man with the most exquisitely tuned kit in rock.

MORPHINE
Yes
(Rykodisc RCD 10320)
MORPHINE'S unique combination of instruments — baritone saxophone, two-string bass played with a slide, drums — and their key organising principle of "subtraction" ensure that the trio's music retains its distinctive, minimalist flavour on their third album, *Yes*. Another product of Fort Apache studios, Boston's alternative hit-making factory, it is music that swirls and coils like the oil in a liquid lamp but which, with 12 tightly scripted songs packed into just 37 minutes, is never allowed to meander.

The lack of treble frequencies — even bassist Mark Sandman's voice has a deep, silky quality — and the absence of any staccato attack on the instruments carrying the tunes creates an eerie effect that is consistent with the group's rather sinister name. Swathed in soft, comforting tonal frequencies, yet nailed to a 4/4 beat, and subject to alarming outbursts of paranoia, numbers such as *Sharks* and *Free Love* re-create the dramatic unreality of a heavy doper's nightmare.

When it is not despair, it is desire which comes welling to the surface, as in *Whisper* ("Whisper me your number. I'll call you up at home"), a slow, woozy song straight out of some *noir*-ish nightclub scene and typical of the album's dark, seductive sound.

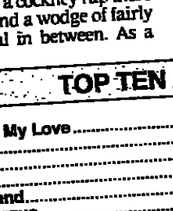
TOP TEN ALBUMS

1	The Colour Of My Love	Celine Dion (Epic)
2	Medusa	Annie Lennox (RCA)
3	Greatest Hits	Bruce Springsteen (Columbia)
4	Wake Up!	Boo Radleys (Creation)
5	Made In England	Elton John (Rocket)
6	No Need To Argue	Cranberries (Island)
7	Elastica	Elastica (Deceptive)
8	Parklife	Blur (Food)
9	Dummy	Portishead (Go! Discs)
10	The Bends	Radiohead (Parlophone)

Compiled by MRIB

All chill mist and chocolate liqueurs

The Tindersticks go for a slow burn, creeping up on you with a hefty dose of tidy understatement



CAITLIN MORAN

They are the band least likely to leap up in the air, scream "Howya-doin' LA?" and then drive into a dirty jam of *The Boys Are Back in Town*, pausing halfway through to introduce "our very special guest harmonica player tonight — Mr JON! BON! JOVI!".

Their version of Zoo TV would be an old broken radiogram (and it *would* be a radiogram, not a radio) propped up against the drum riser. They are unlikely to get thrown out of Stringfellows for attempting to snort up a chair, and they will never date supermodels.

This is not a rock or pop band we are talking about — this is The Tindersticks. Something special. Something half-hidden. In two ways: a) you will have to seek them out through word-of-mouth, adulative press or chance plays on late-night radio — their fame is a small pile of beans compared with the veritable Heinz factory of, say, Radiohead or Supergrass; and b) there is nothing immediate about Tindersticks music. It creeps up on you like a chill mist; like the tide on flat, grey estuaries; like chocolate liqueurs. There is no overt emotion here. Everything is tidily understated: Stuart's sub-bass mumbled vocals; the occasional flourish of guitar; the curlew dip and bend of Dickon's violin; the tiniest of xylophone solos.

It brings to mind, strangely enough, the comic monologues of Alan Bennett. Nothing, at first glance, seems to happen — just some suburban *hausfrau* rambling: some vicar's tipsy wife confessing to not very much. But slowly, over an hour, you are sucked into the claustrophobia of Other People's Lives. The detail, you see, is everything. And *The Tindersticks' Second Album*, released this week, is a beautifully illuminated 16th-century manuscript of a record: flowing, black-inked paragraphs occasionally highlighted by explosions of vivid colour and swirling line. A quiet, intimate, *musical* detailing of Other People's Lives. Alan Bennett with drums on it. *The Book of Kells* on your stereo.

"They're stories. All our songs are stories," Stuart says, dragging on a cigarette. Stuart is almost legendary for smoking. On stage he shuffles around in a shabby suit, cigarette smoke halo-ing the greased semi-quiff, cupping the microphone as if it were his last half-pint, and almost whispering his confessionals in that absurdly deep growl. His face is very large. One imagines that his jawbone, if unnecessarily and painfully removed from his head, could be used as the frame for a cello. He continues: "I've never really considered writing a book or short stories. Writing songs seems to be the next rung on the evolutionary ladder — you get the music and the story together."

Since The Tindersticks' music seems so alien to most "alternative" music, does this attitude spill over into practical dealings with the music industry?

"Well, I tend to think most bands are slightly foolish when they start going on about how their record companies have 'made' them go on tour, 'made' them make videos they don't like. How did they 'make' them?"

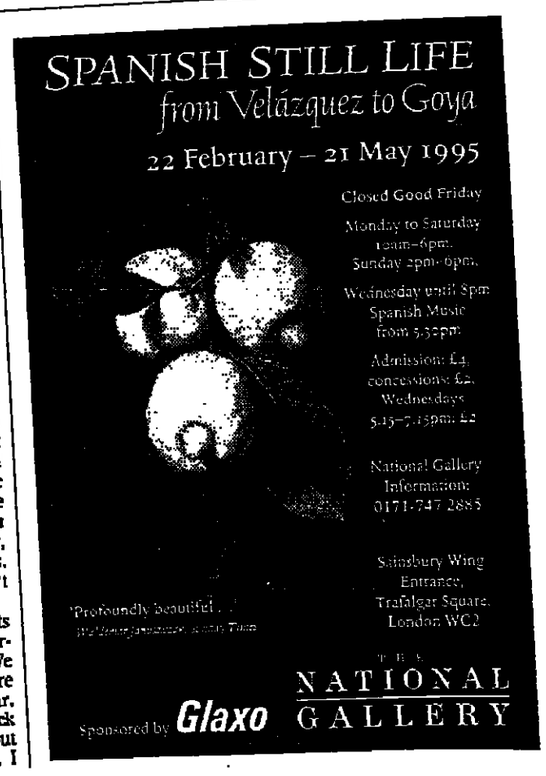
Stuart looks puzzled. "Our record company wouldn't 'make' us do anything," he says. "We just ring them up when we fancy going on tour, and they arrange it. It seems stupid from an artistic point of view to go on tour if you feel it will damage your creativity. It's a bit like killing the goose that laid the golden egg, isn't it?" He smiles wryly.

The Tindersticks' first album, *The Tindersticks*, was greeted with the kind of press awe usually reserved for Neil Young, or P.J. Harvey. This unknown band, formed from the ashes of the terminally not-very-good Asphalt Ribbon, who had toured for two years in shed-sized venues, suddenly released an album of such tattered grace and despair that *Melody Maker* was shocked into voting it Album of the Year in 1993. That's above Suede's *Suede*, Nirvana's *In Utero*, Bjork's *Debut*, Blur, P.J. Harvey, Pet Shop Boys, Belly's Star. Weren't Tindersticks overjoyed?

"Well, yeah," Stuart starts hesitantly, looking as overjoyed as a dead puffin. "We heard a couple of weeks before that it was Album of the Year, so it wasn't a massive shock when the issue came out, but y'know, it's good for sales, I guess. We've all got mortgages, gave up our jobs for Tindersticks because we wanted the music to be as good as we could make it. But all that industry stuff's a bit sheep-like, isn't it? 'Are you voting for Tindersticks? Oh, OK, I will too.' I mean, I'm not being ungrateful, but critical acclaim isn't a *real* thing, is it? We're waiting for the Tindersticks backlash to start: 'They smoke too much! All the songs sound the same!' I could start it myself."

On the evidence of the imaginatively titled *Tindersticks Second Album*, he will be running that particular campaign on his own.

● The Tindersticks's Second Album *is out now on This Way Up Records. The Tindersticks are on tour at the Leadmill, Sheffield (April 22); Garage, Glasgow (April 23); Riverside, Newcastle (April 24); Irish Centre, Leeds (April 25); Irish Centre, Birmingham (April 26); Manchester University (April 28); Bristol University (April 30); Forum, London (May 1)*



NUTRASWEET LONDON MARATHON RESULTS

Runners up to 4 hours, 24 minutes, 21 secs

UNISYS
We make it happen.

The Times **continues its exclusive coverage of the NutraSweet London Marathon with the names of the competitors who finished inside 4 hours, 24 minutes and 21 seconds. The results are provided by Unisys, official suppliers of computers to the race. The names and times of the other finishers will be continued tomorrow.**

NUTRASWEET LONDON MARATHON '95
IN ASSOCIATION WITH BUPA

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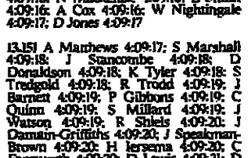
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Wales make Hall central feature of rebuilding plan

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

WHATEVER affection Welsh rugby union followers had for the old national team management, or however they regard the new, the next two months will provide them with a roller-coaster ride into the 1995 World Cup in South Africa. The shape of things to come was made public yesterday with a new captain and a new squad including ten uncapped players.

Above all, the incoming manager and coach, Geoff Evans and Alex Evans, accentuated the positive, in the quality of players at their disposal and the attacking rugby they hope to play. The two men, the one a lecturer in London, the other a professional coach from Brisbane, believe nothing — even defeat of New Zealand in the pool matches — is impossible.

Such talk might be taken with a pinch of salt were it not for the personal and professional achievements of Alex Evans. He is an achiever, as player and coach, in two hemispheres. As one who also overcame severe illness, he wastes neither his time nor that of his players and it is the philosophy of achievement he will hammer into them in the six weeks before departure for South Africa.

The training squad of 32 will be pared down to 26 by April 18 and will be led by Mike Hall, the Cardiff centre. He is one of 13 players from the Heineken League leaders — the club of which Alex Evans is coaching director — and notable casualties from the previous regime of Robert Norster and Alan Davies include Phil Davies, Wales's most-capped forward, Richie Collins, Rupert Moon and Nigel Davies.

Ieuan Evans, captain in 28 internationals from 1991 to 1995, is in the training squad but under pressure from the league's leading try-scorer, Steve Ford, and bright young things like Alan Harris, of Swansea, and Justin Thomas, of Cardiff Institute. "I am obviously extremely disappointed," Ieuan Evans said. "In accepting the decision, I must confirm my commitment not only to Welsh rugby but to the formation of a strong Welsh national side."

WALES SQUAD

BACKS: A Clement (Swansea), J Thomas (Cardiff RFC), I Evans (Llanelli), S Ford (Cardiff), A Harris (Swansea), W Proctor (Llanelli), M Hall (Cardiff), M Taylor (Pontypool), G Thomas (Bridgend), A Davies (Cardiff), D Evans (Treorchy), N Jenkins (Pontypridd), P John (Pontypridd), R Jones (Swansea), A Moore (Cardiff)

Forwards: A Dibble (Treorchy), M Griffiths (Cardiff), S John (Llanelli), L Mustoe (Cardiff), J Humphreys (Cardiff), G Jenkins (Swansea), R McBryde (Llanelli), D Jones (Cardiff), G Llewellyn (Neath), G Prosser (Pontypridd), S Roy (Cardiff), M Bennett (Cardiff), S Davies (Swansea), A Gibbs (Newbridge), E Lewis (Cardiff), H Taylor (Cardiff), D Williams (Cardiff)

Once Alex Evans became coach, Hall was always a likely captain. In the time available, the coach had pragmatic decisions to make and Hall, 29, a partner in a chartered surveying company, has been his club captain for three years. One of his first actions was to have lunch with Ieuan Evans. "We need a fit-Ieuan helping me on the field of play and with the squad," Hall said.

The new management wanted a player closer to the action than wing and Hall's knowledge of the new coach's methods clinched the job. "Mike is very aware of the playing policy we want to achieve," Alex Evans said. "He has proved his leadership qualities with Cardiff, he has been away with the British Lions, worked with other coaches and captains, and is a disciplined and strong person."

It is a mark of the former regime's achievements that 30 players (the exceptions being Ford and Harris) have been plucked from existing national squads at either senior A or under-21 level. Six are 23 or under and a further three players will be considered if they can prove their match fitness in time. They are Nigel Walker, the Cardiff wing, Ricky Evans, the Llanelli prop, and John Davies, the Neath prop suspended after the international against England in February.

Dennis John, the Pontypridd coach, will take charge of the backs, Mike Ruddock the back row and half backs, and Alex Evans the tight forwards. "I have to put my stamp on the whole team but we are confident we can achieve what we have set down on paper," Alex Evans said. "The squad has been picked specifically to match the All Blacks at the lineout. They are playing different rugby to what they played ten years ago and they are very beatable. I see no problem going out against them."

Evans should know. In 1986, as assistant coach to Australia, he helped Alan Jones prepare a team that beat New Zealand in New Zealand. Now Wales have given him the chance to do so again and he means to show his gratitude.

RFL to consider proposals for switch to summer

By Christopher Irvine

AFTER 100 years locked in stasis, rugby league is on the brink of a fundamental leap of faith, with the establishment of a £25 million 12-team super league by 1997 and wholesale transformation of the game in Britain as a summer sport for global television consumption.

At present a game afflicted by debt, inertia and parochialism, when the 35 professional and semi-professional club chairmen meet tomorrow in Wigan, they will consider a future apparently laden with commercial and expansionist possibilities.

The alternative is a repeat of the cherry-picking of players and the schism that has occurred in Australia, with the emergence of the Star League, which is backed by News Limited, the Australian arm of The News Corporation, the parent company of *The Times*. A glimpse of the promised land was enough to convince Maurice Lindsay, the chief executive of the Rugby Football League, that there is no turning back. After years promoting the 13-man code as the "greatest game" and nobody listening, to have the world placed at its feet is like a light piercing a century of pitch black.

Lindsay had his cards firmly to his chest after discussions yesterday with Sam Chisholm, the chief executive of BSkyB, an associate company of News Corp. "Proposals were made and they will be put before the club chairmen," he said. "The formation of a super league gives rugby league a glorious opportunity to expand on a world stage. At the same time, the League has to safeguard the interests of all clubs."

In the centenary of the split from rugby union, the professional game is poised to gain huge financial muscle at a time when union is continuing its vacillations over payments. With the mounting defections to league in Australia and New Zealand, there is a danger that the union World Cup in South Africa next month will act as a shop window.

Officials of the Star League have held talks in the week since its dramatic emergence with several Australia union internationals, including Phil Kearns, the hooker. In Britain, where Mike Burton, the former England union international, was asked to recruit players, three members of the Wales side have reportedly made inquiries.

> 'For us it is exciting, for others it is frightening'

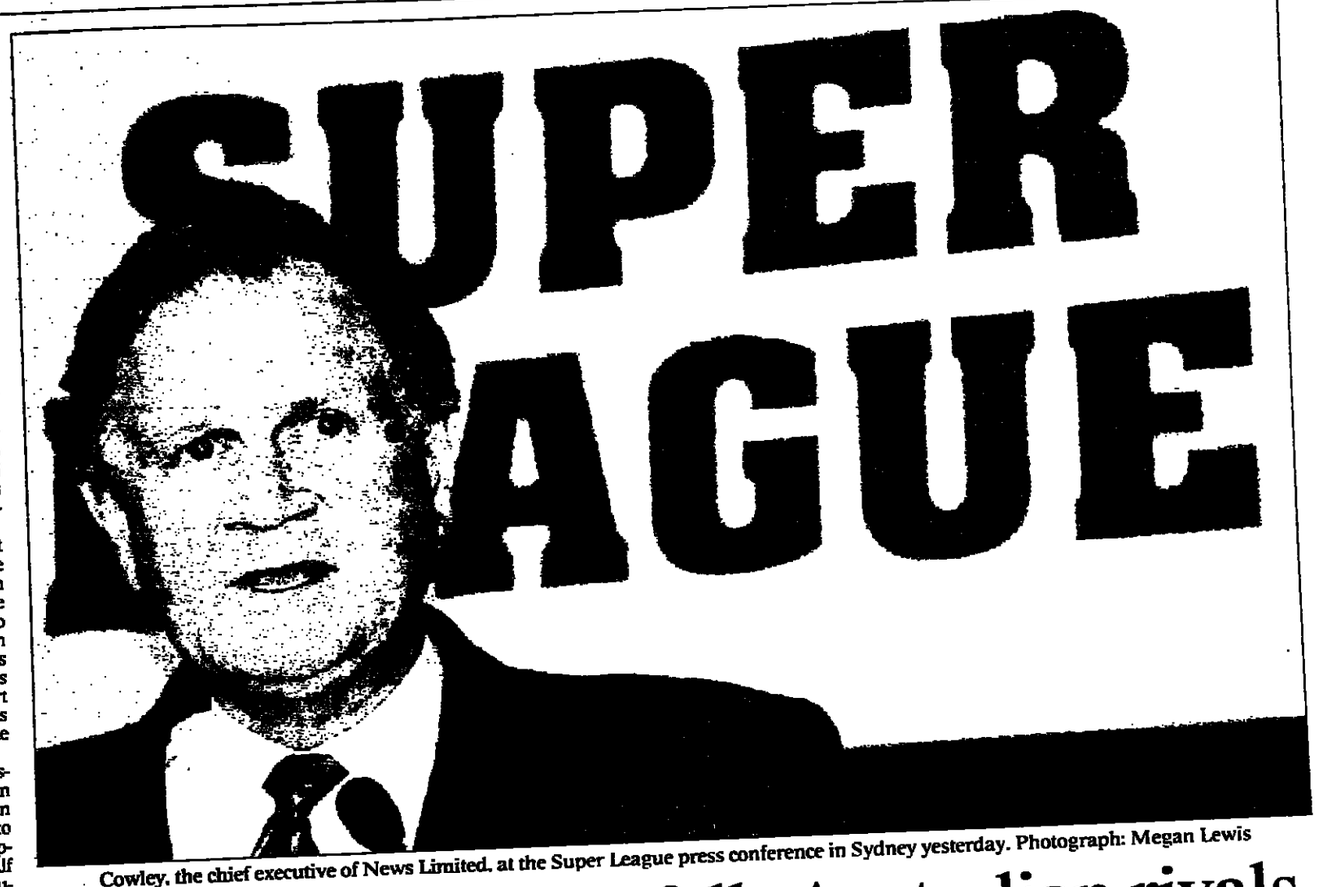
The proposed British and joint Australia and New Zealand leagues would run between March and October, climaxing in play-offs between the top four sides in each. This set-up, would eventually be expanded to include France, with the likely co-operation of Jacques Fouroux's new venture, South Africa and North America. Teams in London, Manchester and Cardiff, and even Paris and Toulouse, are a further possibility. Internationals are also on the agenda.

Upheaval on the lines proposed by News Corp, of which Rupert Murdoch is chairman and chief executive, would not only involve a switch of the European season to summer to ally itself with Australia. The 20 clubs outside the super league would be split into two divisions, with promotion and relegation, leaving questions about the future of the Challenge Cup.

Not that tradition has got league far. In reaching for the worldwide satellite television networks, however, there would be a long way for it to fall. Jack Robinson, the Wigan chairman, said: "For the likes of us it's exciting, for others it's frightening, but in being part of an organisation that is going worldwide, it's like the Berlin Wall coming down."

An announcement in Australia that the super league in Britain was already cast in stone came as a surprise to Leeds, especially as it is opposed to summer rugby. Alf Davies, the Leeds chief executive, said: "I may be cynical, but it is remarkable that a plan with little substance should be sprung the day the Rugby League council was considering summer rugby."

The first event to suffer might be the rugby league World Cup, in England and Wales in October. Ken Arthurson, the Australian Rugby League chairman, has said none of the 125 players reportedly signed up to the Star League will be considered by Australia. Any room for compromise that existed was possibly dashed by Arthurson's reference last night to the "dishonesty and treachery" of Lindsay and Graham Carden, the New Zealand Rugby League president, in supporting the super league plan.



Cowley, the chief executive of News Limited, at the Super League press conference in Sydney yesterday. Photograph: Megan Lewis

Super League coup fells Australian rivals

Roger Maynard on the announcement from Sydney that has shaken rugby league to the core

It is no exaggeration to say that the past week will go down in the history of Australian rugby league as the most momentous period since the sport was first played here in 1907.

Even Paul Keating, the Prime Minister, who is not one of the country's greatest rugby authorities, acknowledged that it was the biggest sports story in Australia since the introduction of World Series Cricket in 1977.

In a few dramatic days, Rupert Murdoch has pulled the rug from under the Australian Rugby League (ARL) and its principal benefactor, Kerry Packer, with the announcement that the New Zealand and British rugby league authorities have signed exclusively to play against News Limited's Australian Super League teams. The move effectively freezes the Australian Rugby League out of international football.

The decisive moment came yesterday afternoon when Ricky Stuart, of the Canberra Raiders, the Super League's earliest signing, finally turned down a counter-offer from the ARL. Stuart, who had reportedly been offered up to £1 million by both camps, had been at the centre of a remarkable negotiating tussle in the previous 24 hours.

On Wednesday, Packer, whose Channel Nine television network owns the rights to broadcast Australian games, dispatched his son, James, to Canberra to do a deal with Stuart.

After that meeting, James Packer and ARL officials flew on to Queensland to try to dissuade Brisbane from taking the same road as the Canberra Raiders. For a while, it seemed the ARL might be clawing its way back. But a disastrous press conference in Sydney, in which one of Packer's celebrity commentators and a former leading league player, Paul Vautin, insulted a News Limited columnist before terminating questioning, heralded the end of the ARL comeback.

The next day, Stuart confirmed he would remain with the Super League and, a few hours later, Murdoch's right-hand man in Australia, Ken Cowley, the chief executive of News Limited, broke the news.

Late yesterday afternoon, Cowley revealed to an astonished press conference in Sydney that he had "consummated" a deal with the British and New Zealand which would allow them to "internationalise the game". It was the Super League's trump card in the campaign against the ARL, which had warned defecting players that it would not be able to play in state and international fixtures if they signed up with News Limited.

Cowley said that the ARL might have misled players about the opportunities in international football under the new arrangement, thereby giving them the opportunity to back out of their existing ARL contracts and sign with Super League.

The developments of the past week have been given greater editorial prominence in the Australian media than almost any sporting story in memory. In a country obsessed by sport, the Packer-Murdoch battle has dominated newspapers, radio and television since Thursday of last week when News Limited launched a court action aimed at freeing six clubs to join the Super League.

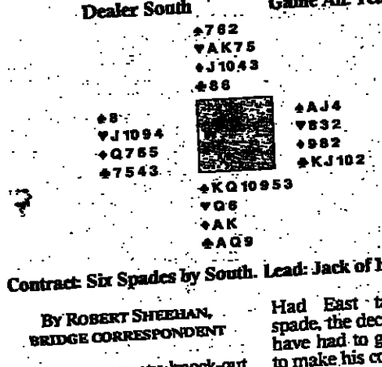
By last night, Brisbane, Canberra, the Westerns Reds, of Perth, and the Auckland Warriors, from New Zealand, appeared to have joined, with others not far behind.

Cowley let slip yesterday that he had offered the free-to-air television rights for Super League to Packer at an "extremely brief and heated" meeting this week. "Our discussions in his office would have made pretty good television," he said.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Like yesterday's refresher, this hand is about communication.

Dealer South — Game All: Teams



Contract: Six Spades by South. Lead: Jack of hearts.

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

In a recent county knock-out match, both teams bid to this precarious slam. Plan the play on a heart lead.

The first declarer, not wanting to waste a heart trick, won the lead in hand and laid down the king of spades. East ducked smoothly, although it would have been wiser to win.

South now knew that either West had started with three trumps, in which case the slam had no chance, or that the trumps were breaking, because no sane East would duck holding ace — jack and another.

Not wanting to risk a heart ruff, he played a second spade, and lost two tricks in the suit. Had East taken the first spade, the declarer would still have had to guess the spades to make his contract.

The second declarer saw that one club discard on a high heart was insufficient. As he needed to play trumps twice towards hand *and* take a club finesse he won the first trick with the king of hearts and played a trump to the queen.

When that held, he overtook the queen of hearts with the ace and finessed the queen of clubs. After the ace of clubs and a club ruff, he was in dummy for a second spade lead through East.

The skill was in recognising the best way to use dummy's entries, and to do that the declarer had to make a plan before playing to trick one.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Baker ahead

In the St Peters de Beauvoir tournament, Chris Baker has raced away with six wins from the first six games. Neil McDonald is in hot pursuit with five wins out of six.

White: Berry;
Black: Baker.
St Peters de Beauvoir tournament, London, April 1995

Larsen's Opening

1	b3	Nf6	30	Rxg6	Nh3+
2	Bb2	g6	31	Kxg2	Rxd2+
3	a3	Bg7	32	Qxf2	Nxf2
4	Nf3	0-0	33	Rxg7+	Kh8
5	Be2	d6	34	Rf7	Nh3
6	d4	Nbd7	35	Rd1	Ng5
7	c4	e5	36	Rf5	Kg8
8	Nc3	Re8	37	Rd6	Nf3
9	Qc2	exd4	38	Nxd3	gxf3+
10	Nxd4	Ne5	39	Kg1	Rf8
11	0-0	a6	40	Rg6+	Kh7
12	Rac1	Bd7	41	Rxf8	Kxg6
13	Rfd1	h5	42	Rg8+	Kh7
14	Nf3	Bf5	43	Rg7+	Kh8
15	Qd2	Ned7	44	Rg6	Qd8
16	Nd4	Bg4	45	Nf1	Qd1
17	Bxg4	hxg4	46	h4	Qe2
18	Nde2	Ne5	47	a4	c5
19	Ng3	Nh7	48	a5	Qe1
20	Nd5	c6	49	Rg4	Qe2
21	Nf4	Qh4	50	Rg6	Kh7
22	Qe2	Ng5	51	Rg5	Kh6
23	Bxe5	dxe5	52	Rg8	Qb2
24	Nd3	f5	53	Rg5	Qxb3
25	Ne1	f4	54	Rxc5	Qb4
26	Nf1	f3	55	Rg5	Qxc4
27	Qc2	bxg2	56	Ng3	Qa2
28	Ng3	e4	57	Nf5+	Kh7
29	Rd6	Rf8	58	Rg7+	Kh8
			59	Rg5	Qe2

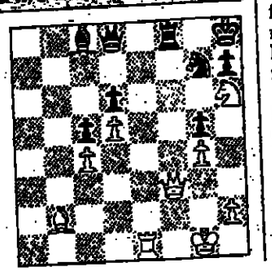
White resigns

Times Schools championship

The quarter-final round of the British Schools championship, sponsored by *The Times*, sees the following pairings: Arden, Solihull v Truro or Monmouth; Haberdashers' Aske's, Elstree v Maidstone Grammar; Ipswich v Royal Grammar School, Newcastle; Methodist College, Belfast v Manchester Grammar.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene



This position is from the game Cvitan - Bischoff, Groningen 1980. The black king has no moves available and White has a powerful pin on the a1-h8 diagonal. Not surprisingly, White has an immediate win. What did he play?

Solution: page 42

By Philip Howard

CABOTINAGE
a. Passing stolen goods
b. Playing to the gallery
c. Discovery voyaging

CHAROSET
a. A dog-cart
b. A library stall
c. Spiced apples

COPACETIC
a. With an acidic sparkle
b. Making peace together
c. Fine

DEFTERDAR
a. A Turkish accountant
b. The day before yesterday
c. An extinct amphibian

Answers: page 42

Holmes awaits final showdown

From Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent
in Las Vegas

THE third return of Larry Holmes reads like the screenplay of a Hollywood western: old fighter, looking forward to retirement, is persuaded to come back for one last assignment.

So, the old man from Easton, Pennsylvania, comes into this desert town to deal with his young adversary, Oliver McCall, the World Boxing Council heavyweight champion, at Caesars Palace tomorrow. "I don't want to dwell on the past, but on the future," Holmes says. "When all this is over, I'll go back to my family and have a happy life in Easton. I'm going to die out there. I have already got a cemetery plot there. So it's no case of me moving to California to keep up with the Joneses. I'll stay in Easton — and let them keep up with the Holmeses."

The story is so corny, you would not think that anyone would buy it. But the ever-romantic boxing public keep coming back for more. Holmes has his own reasons for coming back for more. "In a way, I need boxing," he says. "Because of the ego, I've got to feel within myself. But I don't need boxing for the money. I have enough money for the rest of my life."

Since Holmes owns most of Easton, including the federal court house, you have to believe him, particularly when he says he does not particularly want to fight Mike Tyson again for any kind of money. But, like all good businessmen, he finds it difficult to turn down a sensible chance to make a few dollars more.



Holmes relaxes after a training session for his title bout

Holmes's two retirements came after he was "ripped off" with controversial decisions in the two bouts with Michael Spinks in 1985 and 1986, and after the devastating fourth-round knockout by Tyson in 1988, which exposed Holmes for the ageing boxer he was.

The bout with Tyson probably left him with damaged vision for, four years later, when he lifted Ray Mercer's World Boxing Organisation (WBO) title, the vision in his right eye was blurred. "I fought Mercer with a detached retina," Holmes said. "It was real dark in my eye."

Thinking that he could take Evander Holyfield's title as well, Holmes secretly had an eye operation under the name of Charles Jones, and then, incredibly, stepped into the ring against Holyfield wearing a contact lens. Luckily for Holmes, a left hook knocked out the lens in the third round. Even though he boxed the remaining rounds with limited vision, he escaped serious eye injury. After the bout, Holmes had another operation to correct his eyesight which, he says, is now fine.

After the defeat by Holyfield, Holmes had six more contests, and planned to have a final bout against a "nobody" and retire. "I was knocking on the door of the Last Hurrah," Holmes said. Then, Don King came knocking on Holmes's door.

To King, Holmes was the ideal opponent for McCall. The promoter wanted to keep as many top ten contenders as he could for Tyson to bowl over when he came out of prison. Holmes did not want to box Tyson again. "He kicked my butt then and he'd do it again," Holmes said. Holmes was a name — but an old man. The public might think he could do a Foreman.

King, who paid Holmes $3 million (nearly £2 million) for the contest with Tyson, now offered him $350,000. Holmes revealed. Holmes took the money. He had been boxing for $200,000 on USA, a small cable television company but now had a final chance. "I want to win the championship. McCall is tough, but he has not got the experience."

Indeed, Holmes looked in excellent shape training yesterday. The old power is no longer in the jab, but the punch is there. He is one of the greatest heavyweights ever, and insists he knows enough "to take McCall to school".

☐ Paul Weir, of Scotland, is being lined up for a lucrative bout with Baby Jake Matlala, of South Africa, in Sun City after retaining his WBO light-flyweight title on Tuesday with a points decision over Renato Magramo, of the Philippines. His long-term goal is to take the flyweight title from Alberto Jimenez, of Mexico.

Qualifying positions promise to hold key

FROM OLIVER HOLT IN BUENOS AIRES

THE park surrounding the circuit resounds to the noise of hammers on wood, the starting places have not been painted on to the grid, and dump trucks were still unloading gravel into the safety trap by the side of the most dangerous corner 12 hours before the first practice session began yesterday morning.

It is almost rustic here on the outskirts of the city. Cows graze a few yards from where the cars speed by, and there is a small school built into the back of one of the grandstands. Buenos Aires does not seem quite ready for the resumption of grand prix racing after a gap of 14 years, but the leading drivers are raring to go.

They took part in two prac-



Coulthard: good start

tice sessions yesterday to familiarise themselves with the new layout of the circuit, which last hosted a race in 1981. Jean Alesi, in a Ferrari, was quickest in the morning, but the afternoon was turned into an empty exercise by a downpour which flooded the track. Despite that, they are now eager to put the controversy of Brazil behind them and start the season again in style here.

Even though keen to get acquainted with the winding circuit, none of the drivers ventured onto the track until more than halfway through the afternoon session. Eventually, a few left the pits but, within 15 minutes, the action was brought to a premature halt when the Ligier Mugen-Honda of Olivier Panis slithered into a wall and came to rest at the side of the track. It was restarted after a 15-minute delay. Gerhard Berger also spun off in treacherous conditions.

Neither session mattered in terms of time because they did not count towards grid positions but Damon Hill and David Coulthard, the Williams-Renault drivers, emphasised that qualifying, which begins today, would be crucial in determining who took the chequered flag in the 72-lap race on Sunday.

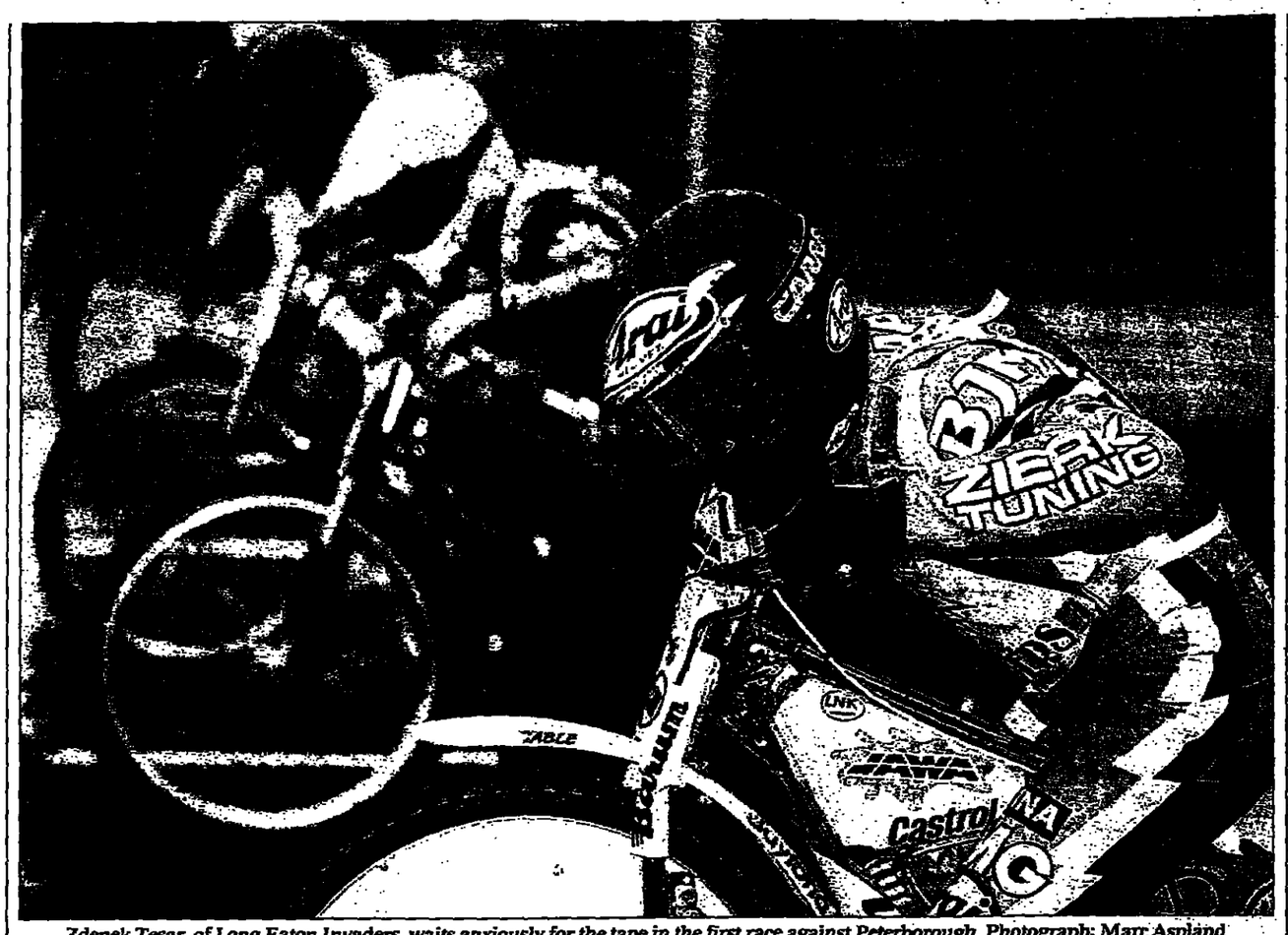
"The chances of overtaking on this track are slim," Hill said. "So it is vital to get a good grid position. It is slippery and it is narrow, and, although it may be possible to out-drag someone down the straight, for the most part you are going to see a game of follow the leader.

"Within 12 laps, the backmarkers will be a problem. The track is very dirty off the racing line, so it will be very hard to move away from it. You will have to tiptoe past them and just pray that they are well mannered and do not hold you up too much."

Coulthard, who adapted quickly to the new track and was second behind Alesi in the morning, said the biggest problem was two bumps at the entry to the fastest corner on the circuit at the end of the long back straight. "The track is quite slow and windy but at that point when you should be braking, your feet are jolted off the pedals, which makes it a little bit tricky."

Officials from the Williams and Benetton teams were at least hopeful that any chance of a repeat of the disqualifications of Michael Schumacher and Coulthard after the Brazilian Grand Prix last month should be avoided.

Both drivers suffered because irregularities were found in the Elf fuel their cars use. They are likely to use the same fuel again, but the French company has submitted a new "fingerprint" to the International Motor Sport Federation, which should prevent any new controversy.



Zdenek Tesar, of Long Eaton Invaders, waits anxiously for the tape in the first race against Peterborough. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Excitement wanes until a spork turns up

Twenty years ago at a Saturday morning sale in Wisbech, the capital of the Fens, I bought a box of 3,000 sporks for a tenner. I had not gone to the auction rooms with intent, but sporks (white plastic spoons with prongs) at three a penny seemed outstanding value; also, it is ever helpful to the career of a Member of Parliament to be seen participating in the activities of his constituents.

When there were school closures, I protested. When a new bypass was opened, I cut the ribbon. When there were sporks for sale, I bought.

On Wednesday evening at Station Road stadium in Long Eaton, the Invaders were racing Peterborough Panthers in the new British Speedway Premier League — an amalgam of last year's first and second division teams who had become sick of riding against each other four times a season.

Peterborough won heat one; then they won heat two and heat three. In the fourth and fifth heats, Peterborough came first and second and as the excitement factor was now low, I adjourned to the food bar for a steak and kidney pie, £1. It had been a close run thing between that and the chip butty, £1.10. And when I asked for utensils with which to tackle what turned out to be an excellent, well-made, palatable and generously-filled confection, they gave me a spork. After that, it had to be a great night.

Speedway racing is a nice sport watched by nicely-behaved supporters who tend to be youngish, dressed in denim and anoraks, mostly bespectacled, and bring their children and dogs. Approval of what goes on is manifested not by cheers or applause, as is the custom at other sporting events, but by blowing into hooters.

There were about 1,000 spectators. Before the start many of them made their way to the pit, watching the riders and their mechanics, listening to the fierce revving of engines, breathing in the heady vapours of methanol which fuels the machines.

Methanol is the stuff dry cleaners use and costs £7 a



FREUD ON FRIDAY

gallon. The pit area smells like a distillery. Bikes are lean, fierce, thinly-tyred and the men who ride them look as if they have been designed for those sleek frames.

Each team has seven riders; each must ride in at least three of the 16 heats that involve two men per side, distinguished by the colour of their helmets: red and blue for the home team, white and yellow for the visitors.

The four bikes move up to the starting tape with engines revving furiously, riders taut as asparagus, and when the tape goes up, there are four circuits of a tight, 375-yard oval to be negotiated. Unless serious errors occur, he who emerges ahead from the first bend tends to win; the disadvantage of being beneficiaries of dirt thrown at them by the leader's rear tyre has a pejorative effect on the performance of pursuers. The score is three points for coming first, two for second, one for third.

In heat eight, Hans Clausen, of Peterborough, lost his machine on a bend and skidded into the newly-whitewashed safety barrier, which made for oohs from the crowd. He was brushed down and we waited until he had been retrieved, after which the race was re-run without him. "Clausen having been the primary cause of stoppage," explained the commentator, who had started off the evening in the breathless verbiage of an old-time music hall MC.

"The dynamic, the debonair, the man we all want to see first across the line — Steve Johnston," he had said. We who had hooters, hooted.

A man who looked as unassuming as John Major was introduced as "the mad dog himself, Martin Dixon". At the mention of each name, there were hoots, though the noise was some way from extravagant.

The evening is spent watching the action on the chill terraces, reviving the innerman with an assortment of hot and cold beverages and selected snacks, then returning to observe and annotate the programme to gauge the extent of the visitors' victory.

A 50-seater restaurant provides three-course dinners for £7.50. It had no customers. No easy matter competing against £1 Kate and Sidney with a spork thrown in.

I had a good time, but would have had more fun had there been bookmakers, the way there are at Station Road stadium two evenings a week when they stage greyhound racing on the track outside the speedway circuit. Unless you are a committed motorcycle racing fan, or a relative of the assorted Australians, Scandinavians and Czechoslovakians who make up the teams, you need some tangible reward for predicting the outcome of the races.

Meads sets out in confident fashion

STEPHEN MEADS, the top-seeded England No 11, yesterday began with some confidence his campaign for a national squash title, defeating Martin Greenslade, from Dorset, 9-2, 9-4, 9-4 in a first-round match in the NSF National Squash Championships at Abbeydale Park, in Sheffield.

His second-round match today is against a Derbyshire junior, Paul Hardgrave. His scheduled quarter-final opponent is Clive Leach, of Warwickshire.

Bates through

Tennis: Jeremy Bates, the British No 1, reached the third round of the South African Open in Johannesburg yesterday, defeating Kevin Ullyet, of South Africa, 7-6, 2-6, 6-4, in a tough, error-strewn match.

☐ Shirli-Ann Siddall will make her Federation Cup debut for Britain in this month's 16-nation Europe-Africa qualifying group one tie in La Manga, Spain. Siddall, 20, the British No 2, joins Clare Wood, Jo Durie and Julie Pullin.

Opening pitch

Baseball: The strike-delayed Major League season will begin on April 25 with a game between the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Florida Marlins at Miami.

Sole survivor

Bowls: Margaret Johnston, the reigning world and commonwealth outdoor champion, is the only former winner through to the semi-final stages of the Churchill Insurance woman's world indoor championship.

Wide open

Ice hockey: Cardiff Devils and Edinburgh Racers are through to the Wembley semi-finals, after the British League championship group B play-offs. Group A is wide open.

England triumph

University sport: England won the overall Trustees Trophy at the inaugural Busa home nations festival at Birmingham yesterday. Charlotte Cornwallis's goal in the 1-0 win over Northern Ireland clinched the women's hockey title for England, who also won the men's event after a 5-0 win against Northern Ireland.

Leighton justifying faith of his friends

Kevin McCarra traces the career of a player who has overcome the trauma of rejection

Goalkeepers have a long reach. As well as sinuous arms, they often possess memories that can arch back over decades in the game. In the case of these men, the ageing process is sluggish. For Dino Zoff, at 40, a mid-life crisis meant thwarting West German forwards while Italy won the World Cup final in 1982. As Jim Leighton, of Hibernian, knows, however, the many years have room for ordeals as well as honours.

Tonight he plays for his club in the Tennents Scottish Cup semi-final against Celtic at Ibrox. On Wednesday, Leighton was voted Scotland's player of the month for March. Last week he won his 63rd cap as Scotland held Russia to a 0-0 draw in Moscow. Only Tom Hanks, you might conclude, has a life more cluttered with acclaim.

Yet Leighton, 36, welcomes each new achievement as one more pace away from the despondency which almost destroyed his career. In 1990, while with Manchester United, a hard decision for the manager proved brutal for the goalkeeper. Alex Ferguson, following a 3-3 draw with Crystal Palace in the FA Cup final, chose to replace Leighton with Les Sealey for the replay.

United's 1-0 victory may have justified the ruthlessness, but the consequences were far-reaching. "The manager told me I was being left out," remembered Leighton, "and I didn't take in another word after that. I was too numb to listen." The dialogue which died out then never restarted, since the pair no longer talk.

The consequences of that 1990 final can appear melodramatic. Why, even for such a game, should there be so great a trauma in being dropped? For Leighton, however, there were layers of anguished significance. The decision came as a disruption to a long and successful professional relationship with Ferguson. The two men had worked together harmoniously at Aberdeen and the goalkeeper's transfer to Old Trafford in 1988 renewed the rapport.

In that second season with Manchester United, Leighton became accident-prone and the crowd, initially encouraging, grew sardonic. At Aberdeen, success had come easy. "The situation with United," he reflected, "was one I had never come across before and I did not handle it well. It affected me as a person. I was snapping at my wife and children. On the pitch, I was snatching at the ball."

The smooth rhythm needed in the chaos of a six-yard box had left him. Leighton retained his place in the Scotland side at the World Cup in Italy that summer but the tournament brought only further distress. In the third match, a crucial meeting with Brazil, he parried Careca's drive.

The ball might have run behind for a corner. It could



Leighton: Scotland recall

have been cleared by a defender. Instead, Muller followed up to score the game's only goal and eliminate Scotland. "I was," pondered Leighton, "nine minutes away from hearing people say that I had had a good World Cup." There was to be no rehabilitation at Old Trafford.

"After playing in front of 70,000 people in Turin" he remembered, "my next match was a reserve game against Wolves with maybe 100 people in the ground." In 1992 he joined Dundee, but did so in the belief that he was to be the first in a series of impressive signings. The expected reinforcements never arrived. "I was unhappy there," Leighton admitted, "long before I was dropped."

He made just 21 league appearances for Dundee and there were moments when retirement looked like the only career move left open to him. The small group of friends and family who sustained his morale in those days will be at Ibrox to share tonight's semi-final occasion.

The Hibernian manager, Alex Miller, was one of a stubborn band who also appreciated the goalkeeper's professional qualities and he signed him on a free transfer in 1993. A sturdy technique has indeed proved unimpaired. "Any goalkeeper who ends up with his legs round his shoulders won't get much respect from me," Leighton said, explaining his undemonstrative style. "If you can make a save look easy it takes a bit of the heart out of a forward."

Nowadays, dejection is just something Leighton imposes on the opposition.

Defeated White played four days after surgery

BY PHIL YATES

JIMMY WHITE, six times runner-up in the world snooker championship and among the leading contenders for the event this year, revealed yesterday that he underwent surgery last week to remove his left testicle after the discovery of a growth.

White broke the news after his unexpected 5-2 defeat by Mick Price in the last 16 of the Castella British Open at Plymouth but said that his condition should offer no excuse for his elimination.

Having seen his doctor for a routine medical examination, White was told that an operation was immediately necessary. It was carried out eight days ago in a Surrey clinic but, against a body of advice, White decided that he would not withdraw from the tournament.

"I had an operation last Thursday. They had to remove it because, if it is cancer, it can spread if just a bit is taken away," White said. "I was a bit uncomfortable in my opening match but it didn't affect me.

"The pain is not as bad as the doctors said it would be." White, who compiled a 141 total clearance during his 5-1 first-round victory over Mark Flowerdew on Monday, continued.

White will not discover whether the growth is cancerous until Monday. "My mind is on snooker and getting things right for the world championship but obviously I'm hoping against hope to get the all-clear."

Although hampered, White, ironically, had begun to display his most effective form of a season blighted by a slower recovery than anticipated from a hair transplant and a drink-driving conviction which led to a 120-hour community service order.

Even had he been completely healthy, White would have found it difficult to contain Price, the world No 27 from Nuneaton, who also beat him 5-4 in the last 32 of the Regal Welsh Open in January.

Although the Londoner was cueing sweetly enough to construct a 137 break in the sixth frame, the majority of the heavy scoring came from Price, who included contributions of 97, 69, 50, 72 and 60 in possibly his best performance since turning professional eight years ago.

Stephen Hendry illuminated an otherwise low-key 5-2 victory over Peter Francisco of South Africa, with a 137 total clearance but he managed to remain focused throughout after taking the advice of his friend, Kenny Dalglish, manager of Blackburn Rovers, who believes that in snooker, as well as football, certain victories just have to be ground out.

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Reputations rebuilt in spring sunshine

By Julian Muscat

THERE could have been no greater contrast. The cloying mud of Cheltenham was but a distant memory at Aintree yesterday, when some of the best racing ground of the season allowed two steeplechasers with bruised egos to rebuild their reputations.

Under sun-drenched skies, Merry Gale and Morceli contrived victories as meritorious as they were diverse. From Merry Gale's stealthy defeat of Martomick to the trail-blazing antics of Morceli, the record crowd wallowed in an afternoon that showed the jumping game in all its pomp.

So tired was Merry Gale when finishing fourth at Cheltenham that he was barely going forward at the finish. Yet here he was, a rejuvenated animal on his favoured sound surface, looking every inch the horse to revive the fortunes of the famed Dreaper stable.

It was little wonder that Jim Dreaper, his trainer, needed time to himself after Merry Gale romped to a 15-length victory from Martomick in the Martell Cup. For so long, Dreaper has practised in the shadow of his late father, Tom, whose training career was synonymous with excellence in the shape of Arkle, Flyingbolt and many others.

Merry Gale, a seven-year-old, is maturing with every race. After disputing the lead, he folded like a deckchair after three miles of the Gold Cup, where the testing ground served to undo his fluent action. This time he was ridden with almost exaggerated restraint by Graham Bradley. And he finished his race with a splendid flourish.

"He agreed to relax today," Dreaper said, "although Graham Bradley was so far back, I wouldn't want him to ride for me too often. If next year's Gold Cup is on good ground and the horse is ridden that way, you'd have to say that he'd get the trip. The Gold Cup might not be the right race for him but it's the one we want. It means everything."

This was Dreaper's first winner in England since 1975, when Ten Up took pride of place among the stable's three winners at the Cheltenham Festival. With Merry Gale and Harcon, the outstanding novice, in his yard, it will surely not be another 20 years before Dreaper greets his next winner in this country.

If Howard Johnson is accurate, Merry Gale will be locking horns next season with Morceli, the grey novice who rekindled memories of Desert Orchid with his victory in the Sandeman Maghull Novices' Chase over two miles. For Johnson, who trains the seven-year-old, was adamant that his exciting chaser will not blossom until he tackles longer distances.

"He's absolutely brilliant," Johnson summed up succinctly. It was hard to disagree after Morceli, using his raking stride to the full, jumped like an old hand to stave off Dancing Paddy and Martin's Lamp. This was much more like the horse who wooed the north of England in the first half of the season.

Morceli's Cheltenham preparation was a mess. First, a bout of ringworm ravaged Johnson's stable in January. Then, the horse was the subject of a bid from German interests. The deal finally collapsed, but only after Morceli had been denied an outing before the Arkle Trophy. Like Merry Gale, however, he must have a sound surface.

Norman Williamson, who thrilled aboard Morceli, completed a double when What A Question outfought Major Bell for the Barton & Guestier Handicap Hurdle. But the honours over timber were evenly shared between Sweet Mignonette and Stompin, both deserving winners of their respective races. We should be hearing more of them next season.

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JULIAN HERBERT



The grey Morceli initiates a double for Norman Williamson, completed by What A Question, at Aintree yesterday

Nap: BETTY'S BOY
(4.20 Aintree)
Next best: Simple Arithmetic
(2.00 Aintree)

Young Hustler heads betting

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

A SUNNY afternoon with temperatures which belonged more to Glorious Goodwood than Aintree yesterday saw the fast ground specialist Young Hustler promoted to favouritism for tomorrow's Martell Grand National.

The Nigel Twiston-Davies-trained chaser was made 6-1 by Ladbrokes ahead of Master Oats, the Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, who has been uneasy in the market all week and is now 13-2 along with Miinnehoma, last year's National winner.

Mike Dillon, for Ladbrokes, said: "As the ground has dried up so has the money for Master Oats. Young Hustler was 20-1 a week ago and the more the sun has shone the more people have wanted to back him."

Miinnehoma's supporters could have an anxious wait before knowing if Richard Dunwoody will be fit enough to partner the chaser owned by Freddie Starr and trained by Martin Pipe. A knee injury, incurred during a weekend fall at Newton Abbot, is still hurting the champion jockey and he was stood down by the racecourse doctor before the third race yesterday.

"It's my left knee. Each time I put pressure on it, it gets worse. I am going for some physio to try to ease the pain," he said before leaving for Walton Hospital in Liverpool.

If anyone was doubtful about the effect of the sun and drying breeze on a course where the going was soft ten days ago, conclusive proof came when Dublin Flyer successfully defied top weight of 12 stone in the John Hughes Memorial Chase and recorded a winning time only three seconds outside the record.

Tim Forster, trainer of Dublin Flyer, is renowned for his good-natured pessimism but yesterday his lugubrious features lit up with joyful smiles after a breathtaking display of bold jumping by the front-running chaser, owned and bred by John Sumner, who has been with Forster for 30 years.

In his inimitable style, Forster sung the praises of Brendan Powell, whose horsemanship plays such a vital part in the success of Dublin Flyer. "The horse was ridden by an old jockey who gave him a staggeringly brave ride. They get on very well together. To make all with that weight was quite a performance."

Forster, trainer of three National winners, clearly hopes Dublin Flyer could line up for the big race next year but, reverting to type, he quipped: "The Chinese might be here by then."

The uncertainty of National Hunt racing was underlined when Avonburn was put down after a first fence fall and Latent Talent and Roxton Hill died after the race.

THUNDERER

2.00 Simple Arithmetic
2.35 Martha's Son
3.10 Kadi
3.45 Sheer Jest
4.20 Conquering Leader
4.50 NOYAN (nap)
5.20 Couldn't Be Better

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
2.00 SIMPLE ARITHMETIC.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.00 Tervel.
4.20 JACK BUTTON (nap). 4.50 Bottles.

Brian Best: 3.45 Sheer Jest.

Record number. Six figure key: P — left. P — pulled up. F — fell. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. C — stopped up. R — refused to race. O — other disqualification. Horse's name. Days since last outing: 7 or fewer. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going (on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. S — soft. G — good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD, GOOD TO FIRM PATCHES ON MILDMAY COURSE SIS

2.00 MARTELL MERSEY NOVICES HURDLE
(Grade II: £11,252: 2m 4f) (10 runners)

BBC1

101	1-11112	BERUDE NOT TO 23 (D,F,S,S) (H Addleson) O Sherwood 6-11-9	J Osborne	87
102	114111	PUTTY ROAD 23 (D,S,S) (Lady Harris) D Nicholson 5-11-9	A Maguire	88
103	0-1738	ROBERTY LEA 145 (S,S) (Woodside Cross Ltd) Mrs M Rowley 7-11-5	P Niven	79
104	60-133U	ACT THE WAG 25 (S) (R Dyson) A Turnell 6-11-1	S McNeill	80
105	211310	GAY GUEST 23 (D,S,S) (Rockwell Bridge Ltd) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-1	M Dwyer	89
106	49/114-3	SIMPLE ARITHMETIC 24 (S) (Mrs M Morley) K Bailey 7-11-1	N Williamson	94
107	12116	BRAVE TORNADO 22 (S) (Miss S Swire) B Balding 4-10-12	A P McCoy	90
108	82F318	CADOUSOLD 23 (D,S) (D Johnson) M Pipe 4-10-9	R Dunwoody	72
109	424034	EXPLORE MONDIAL 7F (S Wallace) T Dyer 4-10-6	Peter Hobbs	50
110	14	TERVEL 23 (S) (P Cunningham) J Pearce 4-10-6	C Swan	93

BETTING: 3-4 Simple Arithmetic, 3-1 Putty Road, 7-2 Beriude Not To, 5-1 Tervel, 8-1 Roberty Lea, 10-1 others.

1994: CYBORGO 4-10-8 R Dunwoody (8-1) M Pipe 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

BERUDE NOT TO beat Garrylough Si In 3-runner grade I Chaliow Hurdle at Newbury (2m 3f, heavy) on penultimate start. PUTTY ROAD beat BERUDE NOT TO head in 21-runner grade I Sun Alliance Novice Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5f, soft) with TERVEL (6lb better off) 2¼l 6th, CAL MY GUEST (6lb better off) 10¾l 6th, CALL MY GUEST (6lb better off) 22l 12th and ROBERTY LEA (4lb better off) brought down 1st. ROBERTY LEA (4lb better off) beat Kissy Lucifer 3l in grade II Cotswold Winter Novices' Hurdle at Sandown (2m 3f, good) with CALL MY GUEST (4lb better off) neck 3rd. CALL MY GUEST beat Young Ty 10l in handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, soft) on penultimate start. SIMPLE ARITHMETIC 2l and head 3rd of 20 to Tender Allegation in grade I Supreme Novices Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, soft). BRAVE TORNADO about 14l 5th of 25 to Klassak in grade I Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, soft). CADOUSOLD beat Kilcascli 6l in novice hurdle at Windsor (2m 4f, heavy). Selection: SIMPLE ARITHMETIC

2.35 MUMM MELLDING CHASE
(Mildmay course: grade I: £40,680: 2m 4f) (7 runners)

BBC1

201	22P642	DEEP SENSATION 23 (C,D,F,S,S) (E Eliot) J Gifford 10-11-10	N Williamson	94
202	11-3P42	GALE AGAIN 5 (D,F,S,S) (P Pitter) T Sinclair (Ire) 9-11-10	C Swan	84
203	1-11111	MARTHA'S SON 58 (D,F,S,S) (P Hartigan) T Forster 8-11-10	R Farrant	95
204	1-51213	NAKIR 23 (C,S,S) (J Lewis) S Christian 7-11-10	J Osborne	91
205	032385	SECOND SCHEDUAL 25 (F,S,S) Miss A Middleton (Ire) 10-11-10	Richard Guest	75
206	322124	SOUTHOLT 22 (F,S,S) (B Hubbard) G Hubbard 7-11-10	A Maguire	88
207	315P21	VIKING FLAGSHIP 23 (F,C,S) (Roach Foods Ltd) D Nicholson 8-11-10	A Maguire	88

BETTING: 7-4 Martha's Son, 9-4 Viking Flagship, 6-1 Deep Sensation, 8-1 Nakir, 16-1 Gale Again, 33-1 Second Schedual, Southolt.

1994: KATABATIC 11-11-10 S McNeill (14-1) J Gifford 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

GALE AGAIN 4l 2nd of 5 to Seven Of Diamonds in a handicap chase at Ascot (2m 3f 110yd, soft) on penultimate start. MARTHA'S SON beat Cheddar 7l in 6-runner grade I Denoel Chase at Ascot (2m 3f 110yd, soft) with DEEP SENSATION 14l 4th and SOUTHOLT unseated rider 5th. NAKIR beat Sudden Lane 30l in 3-runner novice hurdle at Musselburgh (2m 1f, heavy) on penultimate start. SECOND SCHEDUAL 42l 6th to Kadi in handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 4f 110yd, soft). SOUTHOLT 16l 4th of 17 to Couldn't Be Better in Cotswold Chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f, soft). VIKING FLAGSHIP beat DEEP SENSATION 5l in 10-runner grade I Queen Mother Champion Chase at Cheltenham (2m, soft) with NAKIR 21¼l 3rd. Selection: MARTHA'S SON (nap)

3.10 MUMM MILDMAY NOVICES CHASE
(Mildmay course: grade II: £20,308: 3m 1f) (6 runners)

BBC1

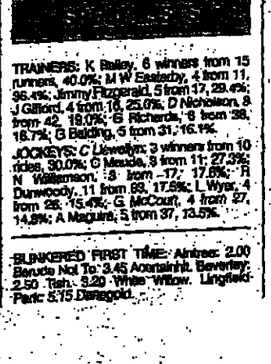
301	3P2121	KADI 23 (CLS) (J Green) D Nicholson 6-11-9	A Maguire	90
302	1-1P212	AUBURN CASTLE 22 (F,S) (Rockleigh Asset) O Sherwood 5-11-6	J Osborne	75
303	2-1U1P2	BRAVE HIGHLANDER 21 (C,S) (S Stubbings) J Gifford 7-11-6	P Hide	77
304	1P1436	SCOTTON BANKS 25 (C,S) (I Bell) M H Easterby 8-11-2	L Wyer	65
305	311339	UNGUIDED MISSILE 23 (S) (D Harrison) G Richards 7-11-3	N Williamson	90
306	342151	UNGUIDED MISSILE 23 (S) (D Harrison) G Richards 7-11-3	R Dunwoody	90
307	511113	BANJO 23 (S,S) (D Mercer) M Pipe 5-11-0	C Swan	93

BETTING: 7-4 Kadi, 2-1 Banjo, 3-1 Aubum Castle, 10-1 Unguided Missile, 12-1 Scotton Banks, 16-1 Brave Highlander.

1994: MONSIEUR LE CURE 8-13-8 P Niven (7-4 fav) J Edwards 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

KADI beat Dublin Flyer 1l in 12-runner handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 4f 110yd, soft). AUBURN CASTLE was 2nd of 3 to Sound Reveille in handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, soft). BRAVE HIGHLANDER 17¾l 5th to Super Mell in novice handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f, soft). SCOTTON BANKS 25½l 3rd of 5 to Grannies Tarr in novice chase at Warwick (3m 2f, soft) on penultimate start. UNGUIDED MISSILE beat recent effort beat Sparrow Hall 13l in novice chase at Wetherby (3m 110yd, good). BANJO 24l 3rd of 13 to Strid Side in grade I Sun Alliance Novice Chase at Cheltenham (3m 110yd, soft) with UNGUIDED MISSILE (7lb better off) 3¼l 4th and SCOTTON BANKS (13lb better off) pulled up before 12th. Selection: UNGUIDED MISSILE



TRAINERS: K Bailey, 6 winners from 15 runners, 40.0%; M W Easterby, 4 from 11, 36.4%; Jimmy Fitzgerald, 5 from 17, 29.4%; J Gifford, 4 from 16, 25.0%; D Nicholson, 3 from 42, 19.0%; G Richards, 6 from 38, 15.7%; G Balding, 5 from 31, 16.1%.

JOCKEYS: C Llewellyn, 3 winners from 10 rides, 30.0%; C Maude, 3 from 11, 27.3%; N Williamson, 3 from 17, 17.6%; R Dunwoody, 11 from 69, 17.5%; L Wyer, 4 from 28, 15.4%; G McCourt, 4 from 27, 14.8%; A Maguire, 5 from 37, 13.5%.

BUNKERED FIRST TIME: Aintree: 2.00 Berude Not To; 3.45 Aconsainht, Beverley: 2.50 Teh; 3.20 White Willow. Lingfield: Parc 5.15 Danegold.

3.45 MARTELL FOX HUNTERS CHASE
(Grand National course: amateurs: £15,045: 2m 6f) (26 runners)

BBC2

401	P1PPP	ACERTAINHIT 20P (B,F,S) (D Pritchard) D Pritchard 11-12-0	D Pritchard	—
402	0/3111-3	AMARI KING 38 (F,S,S) (M Ward-Thomas) J Wall 11-12-0	C Ward Thomas	85
403	-4441	ANDRELOT 13P (B,F,S) (N Jones) S Dow 8-12-0	J Jukes	59
404	1212-48	BRADWALL 28 (F,C,S) (S Barlow) Mrs A Hewitt 11-12-0	J Barlow	89
405	3-111	BROWN WINDSOR 12P (B,D,F,S,S) (C S Kyrk) Miss C Saunders 13-12-0	B Pollock	80
406	PP-P6	DAMERS CAVALRY 27P (F,S) (A Burgess) R Burgess 12-12-0	Miss C Burgess	—
407	4P4-1P2	DARK DAWN 18 (F,S,S) (Mrs J Hewitt) Mrs J Brown 11-12-0	S Swiers	83
408	114B1	SENSUAL HIGHWAY 9P (S,S) (C Dawson) C Dawson 12-12-0	Mrs J Dawson	79
409	R-101	GOLDEN FREEZE 18 (C,S,S) (Mrs A Bowlby) Mrs A Bowlby 13-12-0	C Morlock	86
410	P0P6-	IFREE 14 (D,S) (S Hope) R Hanna 8-12-0	S Hope	53
411	UPPP	LIGHT THE WADE 10 (CS) (S Robinson) Mrs S Mullins 8-12-0	S Robinson	—
412	3-151	MET STATION 17 (B,S,S) (J Boulter) J Boulter 12-12-0	F Brennan	74
413	23P-512	MONAUGHTY MAN 18 (S) (Mrs K Woodhead) F Cairns 9-12-0	K Green	70
414	PF-15PP	NO WORD 38 (F) (D Ibbotson) D Ibbotson 8-12-0	N Kent	55
415	111-213	ONCE STUNG 21 (F,S,S) (J Greenall) P Cheesbrough 9-12-0	J Greenall	85
416	-233401-	ON THE OTHER HAND 332 (F,S,S) (R Ogden) B Richards 12-12-0	A Ogden	92
417	2/11-512	SHEER JEST 18 (D,F,S,S) (Mrs J Wilson) W Wilmer 10-12-0	A Hill	85
418	6-121	SIRSAT 20P (F,C,S) (K Hollowell) Mr K Hollowell 11-12-0	K Hollowell	—
419	55P/1-13	SOLAR GREEN 20P (F,S,S) (Rauch Ltd) S Brookshaw 10-12-0	S Brookshaw	53
420	21P-522	SOMDFAGIRSY 13 (F,S) (Mrs R Wharton) J Dalgleish 11-12-0	M Fellas	88
421	54-4121	SPARKLING FLAME 14 (C,F,S) (R Bartlett) R Bartlett 11-12-0	D Parker	80
422	2-P13	STAR OATS 16 (B,S) (P Gardiner) N Lampard 9-12-0	C Vigors	67
423	3P63P	STAY ON TRACKS 21 (F,C,S) (R Smith) N King 13-12-0	N King	—
424	3-F6P3	UMOR 18 (F,S) (Miss H Hamilton) P Monteith 9-12-0	R Hale	64
425	P222P	WHEAL PROSPER 16 (F,S,S) (Mrs O Hobbard) Mrs O Schilling 10-12-0	R Hobbard	—
426	1P40F-U	WONT BE GONE LONG 18 (CD,F,S) R Valley-Cohen 13-12-0	R Wells	—

BETTING: 7-2 Sheer Jest, 5-1 Once Stung, 6-1 Brown Windsor, 7-1 Dark Dawn, 14-1 Amari King, Golden Freeze, Met Station, Solar Green, Sparkling Flame, Wheal Jbe Gone Long, 20-1 Spookiepipe, On The Other Hand, 33-1 others.

1994: KILLESHIN 9-12-0 Mr G Brown (8-1) H Manners 28 ran

FORM FOCUS

AMARI KING 19l 3rd of 18 to Eastern Destiny in hunter chase at Nottingham (2m 4f, good to soft) with NO WORD (alley) off when pulled up 3 out. BROWN WINDSOR beat Jobom 3l in 4-runner open at Newton Brompton (good). DARK DAWN beat Loughtaltown Boy 11l in 7-runner hunter chase at Sherepole (3m, good to firm). SENSUAL HIGHWAY beat Prevent Prince 6l in 8-runner ladies open at Garthorpe (good). GOLDEN FREEZE beat Much neck in 13-runner hunter chase at Ludlow (2m 4f, good) with STAR OATS (7lb better off) 5l 3rd and WONT BE GONE LONG (7lb better off) unseated rider 4th. MET STATION beat Ho Fizz 20l in 12-runner hunter chase at Fontwell (2m 3f, good to soft). ONCE STUNG 45l 3rd of 23 to The Mighty Lamp. Then, the horse was the subject of a bid from German interests. The deal finally collapsed, but only after Morceli had been denied an outing before the Arkle Trophy. Like Merry Gale, however, he must have a sound surface.

Norman Williamson, who thrilled aboard Morceli, completed a double when What A Question outfought Major Bell for the Barton & Guestier Handicap Hurdle. But the honours over timber were evenly shared between Sweet Mignonette and Stompin, both deserving winners of their respective races. We should be hearing more of them next season.

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Mishamma la hunter chase at Cheltenham (4m 1f, soft) with IFREE (7lb worse off) and STAY ON TRACKS (7lb worse off) both pulled up. ON THE OTHER HAND beat Gwernant Boy 2l in hunter chase at Hexham (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm) with DARK DAWN (6lb better off) 13l 4th. SHEER JEST 1l 2nd of 6 to Knockanshee in hunter chase at Ludlow (3m, good) with SOMDFAGIRSY 2l 3rd. SIRSAT beat Shadow Walker 8l in 7-runner open at Heytrop (good). SOLAR GREEN beat Trust The Gypsy 25l in 6-runner hunter chase at Leicester (2m 1f, heavy) on penultimate start. SPARKLING FLAME beat Ellerton Hill 6l in 6-runner hunter chase at Kelso (2m 1f, good to firm). Selection: BROWN WINDSOR

4.20 BELLE EPOQUE SEFTON NOVICES HURDLE
(Grade I: £19,624: 3m 110yd) (19 runners)

BBC2

501	0-93111	BEAR CLAW 21 (B,S) (Reach Foods Ltd) G Sherwood 8-11-4	J Osborne	82
502	511PP3	BETTER BYTHE GLASS 45 (C,S) (Bristol Synd) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-4	C Llewellyn	81
503	113	BETTY'S BOY 24 (C,S) (H Steel) K Bailey 6-11-4	N Williamson	89
504	0119	CALL IT A DAY 58 (BF,S) (Mrs J Lang) D Nicholson 5-11-4	A Maguire	88
505	2251119	CERTAIN ANGLE 21 (C,S) (The Pytenon Syndicate) P Hobbs 6-11-4	D Gallagher	88
506	RSU061	CHARMER'S WELL 14 (C,S) (M Kerr-Dineen) G Balding 7-11-4	A P McCoy	89
507	4-4541F	DOMINIE 20 (C,S) (M Stone) J Edwards 7-11-4	D Bentley	56
508	2232-50	EALING COURT 23 (S) (R Brookhouse) H Oliver 8-11-4	V Slattery	73
509	211	JACK BUTTON 38 (S) (A and B Racing) B Jones 6-11-4	D Bridgwater	77
510	3-13122	LINTON ROCKS 14 (F,S) (Mrs C Morrison) T Thomson Jones 5-11-4	G McCourt	86
511	4/71111	MIRACLE MAN 24 (S) (P Green) C Weedon 7-11-4	Peter Hobbs	86
512	1112F1	MORGANS HARBOUR 14 (D,F,S,S) (P Deas) Miss M Rowsley 9-11-4	P Niven	84
513	2/5-1120	MR TORTORT 49 (C,S) (Magnum Mats) G Richards 8-11-4	R Dunwoody	73
514	0-12125	MY ROSSINI 23 (S,S) (Mrs C Eaton) P Bevan 8-11-4	T Wall	83
515	10-8312	ST MELLION FAIRWAY 18 (S) (St Mellion Estates Ltd) J Old 6-11-4	T Grantham	84
516	321112	TREASURE AGAIN 21 (S) (J Gwynne) Mrs M Jones 7-11-4	G Bradley	90
517	111148	TRICKLE LAD 23 (D,F,S,S) (Mrs H Prendergast) A O'Brien (Ire) 6-11-4	C Swan	97
518	21-111	CONQUERING LEADER 13 (S,S) (Mrs R Proctor) N Henderson 6-10-13	Mr A Fitzgerald	94
519	524324	KALASADI 21 (S) (G Ulmer) Miss J Doyle 4-10-10	S McNeill	65

BETTING: 4-1 Conquering Leader, 7-1 Miracle Man, Morgans Harbour, 8-1 Betty's Boy, Jack Button, 10-1 Bear Claw, Treasure Again, Trickle Lad, 14-1 Charmer's Well, Linton Rocks, 16-1 My Rossini, 20-1 others.

1994: CORNER BOY 7-11-4 A Maguire (10-1) D Nicholson 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

BEAR CLAW beat TREASURE AGAIN (1lb worse off) short-head in 25-runner grade II National Hunt Novices' Handicap Hurdle Final at Cheltenham (2m 4f, soft) with CERTAIN ANGLE (11lb worse off) 33l 5th. Earlier beat Even Flow 6l in 19-runner novice hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, soft) with CALL IT A DAY (3lb better off) 4l 3rd. CHARMER'S WELL beat Pinbeck Castle 6l in 23-runner maiden hurdle at Newbury (2m 5f, good). JACK BUTTON beat Hope Mistake 10l in 6-runner novice handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 5f, soft). MIRACLE MAN beat Pingaro 1¾l in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (3m 2f, soft) with BETTY'S BOY (5lb worse off) 1¼l 3rd. MORGANS HARBOUR beat LINTON ROCKS 4l in novice hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, good). MY ROSSINI 12¾l 5th of 21 to Petty Road in grade I Sun Alliance Novices' Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5f, soft) with TRICKLE LAD 2¼l 7th. CHARMER'S WELL 16l 11th and EALING COURT 23l 17th. ST MELLION FAIRWAY beat MY ROSSINI head in 6-runner grade II Persian War Novices' Hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, heavy) with BETTER BYTHE GLASS pulled up 8th. CONQUERING LEADER beat Shrubsole 14l in novice handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 5f, good). Selection: MORGANS HARBOUR

4.50 ODDBINS HANDICAP HURDLE (£13,610: 2m 4f) (23 runners)

601	611-136	BARNA BOY 23 (D,S,S) (L Wilson) N Henderson 7-11-10	M A Fitzgerald	91
602	1-12310	CHEF MINISTER 25 (D,F,S) (S Shiel) T Dyer 8-11-10	Peter Hobbs	97
603	21-1123	BOTTLES 16 (F,S,S) (E Carter) J Banks 8-11-9	S Kelleghey	86
604	113500-	TARDQUANT 89F (D,S) (S Farndon) Mrs M Reveley 8-11-7	P Niven	87
605	013UH1	HOPE AND POPS 8 (D,F,S,S) (The Happy Band) R Alner 8-11-4 (4ex)	A Maguire	98
606	3500P-2	WELSHMAN 17 (D,F,S,S) (C McKeever) Mr Blackford 8-11-3	D Gallagher	97
607	615110	SQUIRE SILK 22 (B,S) (R Ogden) A Turnell 5-11-0	S McNeill	89
608	/63230	SALWAN 22 (C,S,S) (P J Douglas Engineering) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-13	W Marston	94
609	12-11-00	REDEEM YOURSELF 23 (S) (Mrs T Brown) J Gifford 6-10-13	P Hide	90
610	221P60	SACRE D'OR 46 (F,S,S) (Mrs D Wright) N Tinkler 10-10-12	G McCourt	—
611	1212P2	NOYAN 14 (D,F,S) (C McBride) L Lungo 5-10-10	T Reed	94
612	309141	CASH CHASE 17 (D,F,S) (S Ryan) D Brennan 7-10-9	M Brennan	90
613	U10204	NATIVE WORTH 6 (D,BF,S,S) (Mrs M Sigsler) J Jefferson 5-10-8	L Wyer	95
614	4310I3	TEST MATCH 22 (U,S,S) (K Dalton) W Clay 8-10-7	Diane Clay	95
615	111250	GREEN LANE 23 (D,F,S) (J Joseph) R Akehurst 7-10-7	D Bridgwater	90
616	226104	MOVING OUT 59 (D,F,S,S) (Mrs S Bastiar) Mrs H Knight 7-10-7	M Perrett	91
617	241111	MARINER'S AIR 11 (S,S) (Mrs P Badger) J Spearing 8-10-6 (4ex)	N Williamson	94
618	14R630	KABAVIL 24 (D,S,S) (Elite Racing Club) C Egerton 5-10-5	J Osborne	92
619	141345	GREAT MARQUESS 22 (S) (R Manasseh Pears) N Twiston-Davies 8-10-5	C Llewellyn	92
620	32-4553	SMUGGLER'S POINT 14 (F) (M Hickey) J Bridger 5-10-2	C Swan	91
621	5-30460	DIVINE CHANCE 16 (S) (R Marsh-Aubrey) N Crossley 7-10-0	J R Kavanagh	89
622	416P23	LUCKY BLUE 21 (D,S) (Mrs S Palmer) M Thomson 8-10-0	A P McCoy	89
623	31122-	HABASHA 391 (B,S) (T Mott) M Pipe 5-10-0	O Burrows (7)	92

Long handicap: Divine Chance 9-11, Lucky Blue 9-9, Habasha 9-2.

BETTING: 13-2 Hope And Pops, 7-1 Green Lane, 10-1 Chief Minister, Mariner's Air, Salwan, 12-1 Noyan, 14-1 Cash Chase, Great Marquess, Welshman, 16-1 Barna Boy, Smuggler's Point, Tardquant, 20-1 others.

1994: KABI 5-11-7 A Maguire (7-1) D Nicholson 11 ran

5.20 PERRIER JOUET HANDICAP CHASE
(Mildmay course: £9,610: 3m 1f) (14 runners)

1	2/55130	BEECH ROAD 22 (F,C,S) (Mr & Mrs T Gosling) G Balding 13-11-10	A P McCoy	88
2	112210	COULDNT BE BETTER 24 (C,S) (R Wilson) C Brooks 8-11-8	C Brooks	86
3	11-2443	BRANGE BRAKE 13 (CD,F,S,S) (Mrs J Marsh) N Twiston-Davies 9-11-7	D Bridgwater	90
4	2F-3321	ROUSH DURST 24 (D,S,S) (A Wates) T Casey 8-11-6	M A Fitzgerald	92
5	1-21215	EASY BUCK 23 (F,S,S) (J & J Gould) N Gaselee 8-11-1	C Maude	89
6	161460	BART OWEN 12 (D,S,S) (Mrs S McCarthy) P Mullins (Ire) 10-10-12	P Carberry	89
7	2/5526	GALLATEER 22 (B,F,S,S) (R Martlew) G Richards 7-10-11	R Dunwoody	91
8	P-F4111	LUCKY LANE 20 (B,F,S,S) (R Hamilton) P Hobbs 11-10-8	M Williamson	88
9	FP3124	MUSTHAVEWINGS 18 (S) (P D Fosterson Ltd) D Nicholson 9-10-7	A Maguire	94
10	P13462	SILVER STICK 14 (B,F,S,S) (Lord Manners) M W Easterby 8-10-4	N Smiley	90
11	2S5112	SAILORS LUCK 16 (C,S) (G Greenwood) P Murphy 10-10-4	E Murphy	91
12	3-P5342	FLASHTHEEYE 21 (C,D,F,S) (Dr B Martin Mahony) C Egerton 9-10-3	J Osborne	93
13	41P262	TAMMY'S FRIEND 17 (B,D,F,S) (Mrs J Mann) C Mann 8-10-0	C Llewellyn	91
14	4-42212	BASILICOS 13 (BF,S) (T Hemmings) Mrs S Smith 6-10-0	Richard Guest	75

Long handicap: Tammy's Friend 9-10, Basilicos 9-8.

BETTING: 4-1 Flashtheeye, 6-1 Rough Quest, 13-2 Mistthavewings, 8-1 Easy Buck, Gallateer, 9-1 Couldnt Be Better, 10-1 Grange Brake, Lucky Lane, 14-1 Silver Stick, 20-1 Beech Road, Sailors Luck, 25-1 others.

1994: MAN OF MYSTERY 8-10-0 D Bridgwater (2-1) N Twiston-Davies 4 ran

Betty's Boy to make his mark

AINTREE
BBC1

2.35: Martha's Son will take the world of beating. Unbeaten in his nine starts over fences, Tim Forster's progressive chaser deliberately bypassed Cheltenham so comes here fresh. The track and going should be ideal for a horse who jumps swiftly and has a good turn of foot.

Viking Flagship, winner of the Queen Mother Chase for two successive years, is the obvious threat but prefers softer going and has never won over this extended trip. Nakir, third behind Viking Flagship, should stay this trip but Gale Again, unlucky in running at Ascot six days ago, may be a bigger threat.

3.10: Banjo's front-running style will be much more suited to this track than Cheltenham, where he faded three out behind Brief Gale and Harcon in the Sun Alliance. The Martin Pipe-trained five-year-old is sure to set a scorching pace and will take a lot of catching in this small field.

Kadi, winner of the Mildmay of Flete, has plenty of pace and holds solid claims but a bigger threat may come from Auburn Castle who had the speed to finish a good second at Cheltenham over two miles and stayed more than 2½ miles over hurdles.

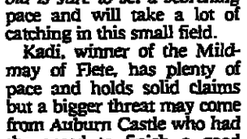
BBC2

3.45: Stakes should be kept to a minimum given the relative inexperience of the riders and the test posed to hunter chasers by the National fences. Sheer Jest boasts the best form having won ten of his 14 races and is a reliable jumper who prefers good or faster ground. Once Stung, partnered by the useful Johnny Greenall, looks the main danger after his good third at Cheltenham recently.

4.20: Betty's Boy carries maximum stable confidence. He has progressed since his excellent third behind Miracle Man at Cheltenham and can reverse the form here. Having only his third run in this country, Kim Bailey's hurdler travelled supremely well before tiring in the closing stages at the Festival and today's slightly shorter trip should be ideal. His homework has been outstanding and he rates a confident choice.

There is no shortage of dangers, headed by Bear Claw and Treasure Again, who fought out a terrific finish at Cheltenham, and the progressive Conquering Leader.

Richard Evans



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

2.15 Moonee Valley. 2.45 Gwespyr. 3.15 Whicksey Perry. 3.45 Garnock Valley. 4.15 Bencher Q C. 4.45 Myasha. 5.15 Persian Conquest.

GOING: GOOD (TURF); STANDARD (ALL-WEATHER) SIS
DRAW: 5F-7F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.15 APRIL LIMITED STAKES
(All-weather: 3-Y-O: £2,746: 1m) (6 runners)

1	(4)	2215	BON SECRET 3 (C,G) T Naughten 9-6	S Sanders (3)	(88)
2	(2)	00-6	JACKATACK 3 M Channon 8-11	R Hughes	87
3	(3)	34-5	MOONEE VALLEY 11 (B) R Harmon 8-11	W Ryan	96
4	(6)	6440	SCISSOR RIDGE 6 (C) J Bridger 8-11

Relaxed Woosnam reaps handsome return from scene of 1992 failure

Where glory lies around the Corner

David Miller visits the spot that can make or break Masters winners



Gay Brewer plays his approach shot to the 13th green on the infamous Amen Corner at Augusta National yesterday. *Photograph: Hugh Routledge*

There are not too many places where to sit for several hours in the rain, with the wind blowing from every direction, is a privilege and a pleasure. Amen Corner, which makes and breaks Masters champions, happens to be one of them.

Yesterday, the Augusta National crowd, as large as ever, was huddled motionless beneath umbrellas, like so many penguins on some Galapagos rock, to witness the trauma which the best must survive. It was here that Ian Woosnam's defence of his title disintegrated on the final day in 1992, when Fred Couples, the winner, had a scary escape, his tee-shot at the 12th coming to rest inches above Rae's Creek on the bank below the 12th green.

Woosnam now made the fabled corner a bonus in his promising opening round of 69. Coming to the 11th two under par, his approach was

Woosnam's challenge .. 44
Photograph 44

12 feet beyond the hole. Looking exceedingly relaxed, never mind the weather, his birdie putt crept, hovered, and dropped for him to go three under. His pitch to the 12th was sound and safe, 20 feet above the pin which was sited left-front and close to the bunker. Woosnam staggered in mock relief, but this time the birdie putt ran a foot past.

Amen Corner gained its name from Herbert Warren Wind, esteemed chronicler for *The New Yorker*. A reviewer also of jazz records, Wind borrowed the name from an old spiritual lyric, and it stuck.

The 11th, with its rolling downhill fairway, looks deceptively innocent, never mind the pond lurking to the left of the green. "The risk of failure from bold, gambling attack is too great, so avoid the water and go for the right of the green," observed Arnold Palmer, four times a Masters winner. Once, when Jack Burke put his five-iron three feet from the pin when it was placed close to the water, he was reproved by Ben Hogan, his partner. "You either missed that shot, or you're a damn fool," Hogan said.

The steady rain yesterday softened the menace of this tormenting start to the inward half, making it easier to hold approaches to the greens. There was less atmosphere than on those other humid spring days that are more familiar: no buzz of conversation from spectators, the damp scene as silent as a graveyard interrupted only by the distant hooting of locomotives from the downtown shunting yard.

Few players were in serious trouble. Scott Hoch, who had miserably lost the play-off to Nick Faldo on the 11th in 1988, calmly went through in par, narrowly failing to birdie at the 12th. There was a fine reception for the 72-year-old Doug Ford, champion of 1957 and playing his 43rd Masters. He hit a glorious pitch ten feet above the pin and was barely a foot away from a birdie putt.

Isolated on a high bank beyond the creek and surrounded by a profusion of shrubs in blossom, the 12th green is like some secluded garden in a corner of Blenheim or Cliveden, idyllically peaceful with its backcloth of 20 shades of green among the deciduous and evergreens. The degree to which a player needs to be focused is illustrated by the story of Hogan in 1947. Hogan birdied the 12th and moved towards the 13th tee, expecting first strike, oblivious to the commotion that had occurred, as they stood on the 12th tee, from where Claud Harmon, his partner, holed in one. Still oblivious to what had happened, Hogan observed to Harmon: "You know, that's the first time I've birdied the 12th."

It was at this hole, too, that Palmer was spectacularly involved on the occasion of his first victory in 1958. His pitch plugged in the bank, there was a debate with the referee on whether he was allowed a free drop; ultimately he played two balls, achieving par with the free drop and double-bogeying the plugged ball. Irate at the delay, Palmer slashed at his drive from the 13th, striking the ball so far that he was on the par-five green in two — rare at that time — and single-putted for an eagle. A subsequent ruling gave him par at the 12th, and the title.

Craig Stadler, champion of 1982, was in characteristic, casual form. Narrowly missing a birdie putt on the 11th, he lofted a perfect pitch to the 12th a foot from the hole to go two under, a margin he retained all the way to the clubhouse.

Sandy Lyle's better days have come and gone. He was as politely surprised as anyone by his title back in 1987, and now he came down the hill three over, shuffling along in the rain in creased blue waterproofs looking like one of the greenkeepers. The touch is still there some of the time. Missing the green by 20 feet, he struck a perfect chip to hold his par and then left his ball comfortably close on the 12th green. "A pretty shot," someone called, but not pretty enough or consistent enough to put him on the leaderboard.

Postscript on the Cold War

The World Tonight. *Radio 4, 10.00pm.*

In the late 1940s, George Kennan, the former Moscow-based American diplomat was one of the first to urge the West to adopt a containment policy towards the Soviet Union. Cynics might say that the reason he can now afford to admit that he was wrong, is that he is now 91 and beyond the range of his critics' firepower. If that were true, he would not have agreed to be interviewed on *The World Tonight*. In the 1950s, Kennan became a trenchant critic of America's Cold War policies which he had previously supported. He admits that the mistake he made in 1947 was not to make it sufficiently clear that he believed the nuclear build-up was not the only option when political weapons were available.

Evening Concert. *Classic FM, 8.00pm.*

Tonight's Hallé Orchestra concert, recorded in Manchester, was a tribute to four members of the orchestra who died of cancer. There are works by Beethoven, Ravel, Sibelius, Weber and Elgar. And, to my delight, there is Vaughan Williams's *Serenade to Music*. Its inspiration was the Lorenzo-Jessica love scene in *The Merchant of Venice* (*How sweet the music sleeps*). The version we hear tonight is neither the one for 16 voices, nor the one for four, but the version for orchestra alone. I miss the singers but, even without them, the work remains as exquisite and almost as tear-provoking, as the same composer's *The Lark Ascending*.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Bruno Brookes with 6.30 Steve Wright 9.00 Simon Mayo, featuring Vanessa Williams playing live 12.00 Lisa TAnson with the Lunchtime Show 2.00pm Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 6.30 The Rhythm of Friday Night 7.00 Pete Tong's Essential Selection 10.00 John Peel 1.00am The IRM Rap Show with Westwood

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Martin Kelner 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Fiona Armstrong 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.30 John Dunn 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night: BBC Concert Orchestra live from the superliner *Oriana*. 9.30 *Listen to the Band: Highlights from* the Brass Explosion Gala Concert 10.30 Nick Barraclough: from the deck of the *riverboat General Jackson* in Tennessee 12.05am Digby Fairweather 1.00 Charles Nove with Night Ride

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme 8.35 The Magazine, with Diana Madill 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.05 Ruscoe on Five, including at 2.35 Racing from Aintree 4.00 Nationwide, including at 4.20 Racing from Aintree 7.00 News and sport 7.35 Parkinson on Sport 8.25 The Friday Match: Celtic v Hibernian 9.35 Now the Good News 10.05 Stop Press 10.35 Financial Week 11.00 Night Extra, including at 11.45 The Financial World Tonight 12.05am After Hours 2.05 Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Samantha Mash, Sean Bolger 10.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Anna Raeburn 3.00 Tommy Boyd 7.00 Maurice Dee, Carol McGiffen 10.00 Caesar 1.00am Wild Al Kelly

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. 5.00am Newsdesk 5.30 Europa Today (MW only: Off the Shelf 5.45 Folk Routes) 6.00 Newsday 6.30 Andy Kershaw (MW only: Europa Today) 7.00 News 7.15 World Today 7.30 Political Insult 8.00 News 8.15 On the Move 8.30 Science 9.00 News (MW only: News in German) 9.10 Words of Faith (MW only: News in German) 9.15 Music Review 10.00 News 10.15 John Dunn 10.45 Sport 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 BBC English 11.45 Off the Shelf Noon Newsdesk 12.30 Meridian 1.00 News (MW: News in German) 1.15 Britain Today 1.30 Science 2.00 News 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Multitrack 4.00 News 4.05 Sport 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Focus on Faith (MW: News in German) 5.00 News 5.15 Music 6.00 News 6.15 Fake 6.30 World Today (MW: News in German) 6.45 Sport (MW: News in German) 7.00 Newsdesk 7.30 Politics 8.00 News 9.00 Europe 9.30 Outlook 9.55 Faith 10.00 News and Business 10.15 Britain 10.30 Multitrack 11.00 News 11.30 World Today 11.45 Farming Midnight News 12.10am Science 12.15 John Peel 12.45 Sport 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 From the Weeldies 1.45 Britain 2.00 News and Press 2.15 Seven Days 2.30 Jazz 2.45 Books 3.00 Newsday 3.30 People and Politics 4.00 News 4.15 Sport 4.30 Vintage Chart

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Classic Reports 7.00 Classic Verdict 8.00 Evening Concert: See Choice 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am Robert Booth

VIRGIN

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Nick Abbot 7.30 Paul Coyte 10.00 Janey Lee Grace 2.00-6.00am Howard Pearce

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Oral History and Family Relationships 6.55 Weather

7.00 On Air: *Quartet Collection*: Haydn (String Quartet in E flat, Op 76 No 6, Fantasia); **7.30** Bach (Concerto in the Italian Style); Sibelius (Impromptu); Gershwin (Cuban Overture); **8.40** Brahms (Violin Sonata in D minor, Op 108)

9.00 Composer of the Week: Haydn in England

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Chris de Souza. William Turner (Suite: Il pastor fido); Handel (Harpsichord Suite No 5 in D); *Lord Berners* (Suite: The Triumph of Neptune); **10.40** Mozart (Duo in G); Ireland (Piano Concerto); Leopold Mozart (Concerto in E flat for two horns); **11.35** *Artists of the Week*: BBC Symphony Chorus. Lambert (The Rio Grande)

12.00 Voices (r)

1.00pm St David's Hall Lunchtime Recital: Gareth Newman, bassoon, and Suzanne Cheetham, piano perform from the works of *Hindemith*, Wilson Osborne, Gilbert Vinter, John Pickard and Saint-Saëns

2.00 Of Love, Skeletons and Toasters: Music from Latin America performed by the New London Chamber Choir under James Wood

3.00 Mining the Archive: Sir Malcolm Sargent (1895-1967). Introduced by Lyndon Jenkins. Including Kathleen Ferrier singing Bach and Moura Lympany as soloist in Mendelssohn's Piano Concerto No 1 in G minor

4.30 An Awful Silence: This is the 150th year since the worst of the Great Famine in Ireland, in the first of three programmes, Nicholas Carolan explores its expression in music

5.00 The Music Machine: Lord Onslow hears from Senegalese singer Baaba Maal

5.15 In Tune: Beethoven (Overture: The Creatures of Prometheus); **6.03** Schubert (The Shepherd on the Rock); Lennox Berkeley (Serenade for Strings); **7.03** Mendelssohn (Variations concertantes, Op 17)

7.30 Towards the Millennium: Lucy Shelton, soprano; John Constable, piano; Britten Sinfonia under Nicholas Cleobury. Messaien (Harawi); Strauss (Sonatina No 2 in E flat for 16 wind instruments, Fröhliche Werkstatt)

9.20 Stories by Bruno Schutz: Birds and Cockroaches. The last of four readings from the works of the Polish writer and artist who was shot dead by a Gestapo officer as he brought home a loaf of bread in November 1942 (r)

9.40 Hindemith: BBC Philharmonic under Yan Pascal Tortelier. Hindemith (Overture: Neues vom Tage; *Suite: Nobilissima Visione*; Symphony in E flat)

10.45 Friday Feature: Gifts of Kings. A look at the evolution of the mirror

11.30-12.30am Midnight Oil: Bernd Alois Zimmermann's *Photoptosis* and Karlheinz Stockhausen's *Kontakte* performed by the Berlin RSO

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping 6.00 News Briefing, incl 6.03 Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today incl 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.56 Weather

9.00 News 9.05 **Desert Island Discs:** The novelist Nina Bawden is the castaway (r)

9.45 All Fall Down: In the second of four programmes on post-Cold War Europe, Misha Glenny travels through Germany

10.00-10.30 News; The Home Front (FM only): The Thingummy-bob 1941. A picture of wartime Britain through diary entries (3/7)

10.00 An Act of Worship (LW only)

10.15 A Spiritual Anthology (LW only): Summer's Honey Breath. Read by Jack Shepherd and Barbara Flynn

10.30 Woman's Hour, introduced by Lynette Lithgow

11.30 The Natural History Programme

12.00 News; You and Yours

12.25pm The Food Programme

12.55 Weather

1.00 The World at One

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Classic Serial: Ben Hur: The Chariot Race. The third of a four-part dramatisation by Catherine Czerkawska of Lew Wallace's epic tale. With Michael Gambon (r)

3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor

4.00 News 4.05 **Kaleidoscope** – reviews the Raphael cartoons at the V & A and *The Colleo*

4.30 An Awful Silence: This is the 150th year since the worst of the Great Famine in Ireland, in the first of three programmes, Nicholas Carolan explores its expression in music

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RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4, RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. IRR: FM - 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m; LW 198kHz (12.45am-5.35am). CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. TALK RADIO: MW 1089, 1053kHz. Listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Mawy

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Atlanta 96 Cleveland 87. Charlotte 84 Philadelphia 86. Indiana 102 Washington 90. Chicago 108 New Jersey 101. Orlando 128 Detroit 125. Dallas 130 LA Lakers 111. New York 114 Milwaukee 94

BOXING

IRVINE: World Boxing Organisation light-flyweight championship: P Weir (Scot, holder) bt R Magrama (Phil) pts. Fly: Keith Knox (Bonnyrigg) drew with Louis Vitch (Barnhead-Blackpool). Feather: Ian McLeod (Hillmarnock) bt Colin Innes (Newcastle) rsc 5th. Super-featherweight: H Collins (Stirling) bt Kid McAuley (Doncaster) pts. Light: M Breslin (Barnhead) bt T J Smith (Kettering) pts. Welter: J Townsley (Ireland) bt B Dunn (Hull) rsc 3rd. Middle: W Quinn (Tranent) bt J Duckworth (Burnley) pts

BOWLS

MELTON MOWBRAY: English Indoor Bowling Association national championships: Pairs. Second round: T Mitchell and P Talbot (Nottingham) bt S Dankwarter and L Giles (Chipping Norton) 18-16, J Ottaway and R Hayden (Wymondham Dell) bt T Branchett and L Shepperdge (Mole Park) 26-13, M Walton and N Brignell (Richardsons) bt C and G Burgess (Pendeswell) 23-15. D Taylor and S Airey (Cumbria) bt M Knowles and G Warburton (Stevenage) 21-18. M Hanson and H Sidebottom (Victory) bt J Cowe and B Fernandes (Thamesdown) 20-19, T Clarke and K Bebbington (Tilbury) bt S Rowlinson and N Smith (East Dorset) 17-16, D Tucker and M Osborne (Exmouth) bt M Bantock and K Smith (Desborough, Maidenhead) 19-18 (after extra end), D Wilson and N Burns (Leicester) bt M Tomberry and A Tidby (Dorchester) 19-13. Quarter-finals: Wymondham Dell bt Nottingham 16-15 (after extra end), Cumbria bt Richardsons 18-15, Tilbury bt Victory 21-14, Exmouth bt Leicester 21-19. Triples: Final: Wey Valley (P Vanmeerdonpolos) bt Stanley (J Lowman) 17-14

CRICKET

Asia Cup

Bangladesh v Sri Lanka

SHARJAH (One-day match, Bangladesh won toss): Sri Lanka beat Bangladesh by 107 runs

SRI LANKA

A P Gurusinghe c Aminul b Saiful	0
S T Jayasuriya c Khalid b Saiful	51
R S Mahanama b Hassan	2
P A de Silva c Khalid b Abedin	36
*A Ranatunge b Saiful	71
H P Tillakaratne c Bashar b Rafique	37
R S Kalpage run out	1
†D Dunusinghe run out	1
W P U J C Vaas c Akram b Saiful	11
M Muralitharan c Akram b Rafique	6
J Gamage not out	9
Extras (w 5, lb 5)	10
Total	233

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-8, 3-101, 4-194, 5-197, 6-198, 7-203, 8-213, 9-220

BOWLING: Saiful 10-2-36-4; Hassan 6-2-29-1; Athar Ali 7-0-28-0, Enamul Haq 10-0-33-0, Abedin 6-0-30-1, Rafique 8-4-0-50-2, Aminul 2-0-17-0

BANGLADESH

*Athar Ali Khan run out	2
Sajjad Ahmed c Jayasuriya b Muralitharan	11
Habibul Bashar c Aravinda de Silva b J Gamage	16
Aminul Islam Bw J Gamage	0
Minhazul Abedin c Dunusinghe b Kalpage	26
Mohammed Akram c Ranatunga b Vaas	24
Enamul Haq c Vaas b Jayasuriya	1
Khaled Mashud c and b Muralitharan	15
Mohammed Rafique st Dunusinghe b Muralitharan	13
Saiful Islam c Vaas b Muralitharan	5
Mahbubul Hassan not out	1
Extras (w 4, lb 4)	12
Total	126

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-32, 3-32, 4-42, 5-76, 6-85, 7-100, 8-112, 9-123

BOWLING: Vaas 7-4-9-1, Gamage 7-2-17-2, Muralitharan 8-2-21-3-4, Ranatunga 5-0-34-0, Jayasuriya 7-0-19-1, Kalpage 10-1-26-1

Umpires: N Plews (Eng) and C Mitchley (SA)

FOOTBALL

Wednesday's late results

EUROPEAN CUP: Semi-finals, first leg: Bayern Munich 0 Ajax 0. Paris Saint Germain 0 AC Milan 1

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Leeds 4 Ipswich 0, Leicester 1 Norwich 0, Liverpool 3 Southampton 1

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Millwall 1 Port Vale 3; Oldham 1 Middlesbrough 0, Swindon 0 Bolton 1

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Third division: Albion 3 East Stirling 1

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Whitefield 1 Spennymoor 2. First division: Atherton LR 2 Ashton 1

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Sudbury 1 Hastings 0, VS Rugby 3 Crawley 1 Southern division: Farnham 5 Cleveden 5; Wealdstone 1 Newport (IOW) 2, Salisbury 2 Poole 1

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Harrow 3 Wokingham 0; Molesey 2 Walton and Hersham 1. Third division: Collier Row 0 Leighton 1. Carlsberg Cup: Semi-final: Sutton United 2 Staines 3 (aet)

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Tom Pentre 2 Afan Lido 1

FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Quarter-final replays: Sligo Rvrs 0 Shamrock Rvrs 0

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Chariton 3 Ipswich 2, Luton 2 Brighton 2, Norwich 2 Queens Park Rangers 3. Second division: Exeter 0 Bournemouth 0, Hereford 1 Cardiff 2; Plymouth 3 Torquay 2, Swansea 2 Cheltenham 1

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Sunderland 1 Notts Forest 1, West Bromwich 2 Derby 3; Rotherham 0 Aston Villa 1. Second division: Blackpool 2 York 1, Hull 0 Middlesbrough 4

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division, Holker Old Boys 1 Burscough 1

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Gateshead 0 Billingham Synthonia 0, Prudhoe 0 Tow Law 2

SEAGE MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Colne 0 Mangotsfield 3, Odd Down 2 Barnstaple 2, Torrington 2 Tiverton 3

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Cirencester 0 North Leach 0, Swindon Supermarine 11 Kintbury 0. First division: Didcot 2 Hallen 4, Emsdalen 3 Yarnton 0

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chatteris 1 Haverhill 1, Sudbury 2 Diss 1

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Ocanton 1 Cowes Sports 1; East Cowes Vics 1 B A T 3; Fleet 0 Wimborne Town 4.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Hallam 1 Maltby MW 2. League Cup: Fourth round: Brigg 0 Belper Town 1

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Senior first division: O Tenisonians R 1 Shene O Senior second division: O Manonians 5 O Southallians 2

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Watford 0 Gillingham 0

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Eastbourne Town 1 Slamon 0; Littlehampton 1 Wick 1; Oakwood 1 Newhaven 2

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Canterbury 2 Whitstable 4, Dartford 0 Slade Green 0

SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier League Trophy: Under-19 semi-final: West Yorkshire 3 Essex 2

HOCKEY

BIRMINGHAM: British Universities Home Nations Tournament: Men: Northern Ireland 2, Wales 2, England 0, Scotland 0. England 5 Ireland 0, Wales 1, Scotland 1. Final standings: 1, England Pts, 2, Scotland 5, 3, Wales 4, 4, Northern Ireland 0. Women: England 2, Scotland 1, Northern Ireland 2, Wales 1, England 1, Northern Ireland 0, Wales 0, Scotland 4. Final standings: 1, England 9, 2, Northern Ireland 6, 3, Scotland 3, 4, Wales 0.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: England Under-21 0 Teddington 5.

ADELAIDE: Four-nation's women's tournament: Australia 3 South Africa 0; China 3 New Zealand 1.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Hartford 8 Pittsburgh 4; NY Rangers 5 Florida 0; St Louis 6 Toronto 4; New Jersey 2 Ottawa 0; Montreal 6 Quebec 5; Winnipeg 4 Chicago 1; Detroit 5 San Jose 3, Anaheim 4 Edmonton 3 (OT)

BRITISH LEAGUE: Championship play-offs: Group A: Sheffield 7 Nottingham Panthers 6, Humberside 5 Fife 4. Group B: Durham 5 Edinburgh 6, Basingstoke 5 Cardiff 8. Promotion/relegation play-offs: Group A: Bracknell 4 Slough 5, Peterborough 12 Paisley 3. Group B: Milton Keynes 13 Swindon 8, Whitley 8 Telford 3

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Hull 28 Featherstone Rovers 8; Wigan 44 Doncaster 4

SNOOKER

PLYMOUTH: British Open (England unless stated) Second round: M Hallett bt K Doherty (Ire) 5-3, A Robidoux (Can) bt J Birch 5-3, M Price bt C Small (Scot) 5-2, J Parrott bt J Ferguson 5-1, S Hendry (Scot) bt D Harry (Scot) 5-3, R O'Sullivan bt D Taylor (N Ire) 5-4, N Foulds bt D Morgan (Wales) 5-2, M Clark bt B Swaddle (Scot) 5-4. Third round: Hendry bt P Francisco (SA) 5-2; Price bt J White 5-2, J Higgins (Scot) bt Hallett 5-0; D Harold bt Robidoux 5-2.

SPEEDWAY

PREMIER LEAGUE: Poole 49 (J Ocump 13, L Gunnestad 13, S Schofield 11) Coventry 47 (B Andersen 15, A Smith 12, J Jorgensen 10).

SKIING

TIGNES: British Land national championships: Boys: Giant slalom: 1, G Trayner (Ladybank) 43.83sec; 2, S Brown (Torquay) 43.92; 3, N Baxter (Aviemore) 44.18. Girls: Super-giant slalom: 1, P Robb (Aberdeen) 55.17; 2, A Pine (Aberdeen) 55.36; 3, E Tomney (Hemel Hempstead) 55.64. Giant slalom: 1, Pine 45.30; 2, Robb 45.70; 3, Tomney 46.58.

SQUASH

ABBEYDALE PARK, Sheffield: NSF national championships: Men's qualifying final: S Townsend (Warwickshire) bt J Peam (Derbyshire) 9-0, 9-2, 9-7; P Astbury (Cheshire) bt N Matthew (Yorkshire) 10-8, 9-5, 9-4; L Scott (Yorkshire) bt D Waller (Cheshire) 9-2, 9-6, 9-3. M Greenslade (Dorset) bt J Russell (Kent) 10-8, 0-9, 9-5, 4-9, 9-5; P Spencer (Merseyside) bt D Ryan (Nottinghamshire) 9-3, 6-9, 9-7, 9-5; J Dark (Wales) bt G Pearson (Kent) 9-5, 9-1, 9-0; N Douglas (Nottinghamshire) bt A Speakman (Cheshire) 9-1, 9-2, 9-0; B Hickerman (Derbyshire) bt J Power (Lancashire) 8-10, 9-1, 5-9 9-0, 9-3.

TENNIS

LISBON: Men's tournament: Second round: A Medvedev (Ukr) bt B Ullrich (Ger) 6-3, 7-6, G Schuler (Austria) bt A Gaudenzi (It) 7-6, 6-2, F Santoro (Fr) bt A Corretja (Sp) 6-3, 6-4; A Costa (Sp) bt S Dosedel (Cz) 6-1, 6-0.

DAVIS CUP: World group qualifying round tie: Australia v Hungary; Norway v Belgium; Croatia v India; Zimbabwe v Czech Republic; Denmark v Venezuela; Morocco v France; Spain v Mexico. New Zealand v Switzerland.

Ties to be played September 22-24

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

Tennents Scottish Cup
Semi-final

Hibernian v Celtic (at Ibrox, 7.45)

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Caersws v Llansantffraid

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Watford v Southampton, Chelsea v Swindon (2.0)

FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Semi-final: Bohemians v Derry (at Dalymount Park, 8.0)

BASS IRISH CUP: Semi-final: Portadown v Carrick (at Windsor Park)

SCHOOLS MATCH: Brighton Clifford Shield: Final, second-leg: Wolverhampton v Solihull (at Ferry Hall, 6.30)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter Championship
First division
Warrington v Leeds (7.30)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser Championship play-off: Quarter-final, first leg: Birmingham v Sheffield (8.0)

BOWLS: Manchester Unity national indoor championships (Melton Mowbray)

SNOOKER: British Open (Plymouth)

SPEEDWAY: British League: Premier League: Edinburgh v Bradford (7.15). Peterborough v Reading. Andy Galvin benefit: (Arena Essex, 8.0).

SQUASH: National championships (Abbeydale Park, Sheffield)

YESTERDAY'S RACING RESULTS

Aintree

Going: good, good to firm in places

2.00 (2m 110yd hdle, 1 SWEET MIGNONETTE (P Niven, 4-1), 2, Shanklin (S Marston, 25-1), 3, Captain Khedive (G McCourt, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Callside Bay, 11-2 Balanak (4th), 10 Sublime Fellow, 11 Golden Arrow, 12 Dino Maita (6th), Sky Run, 16 Addington Boy, 20 High Low, Home From The Hill (5th), 25 Colossus Of Roads, 66 Our Man Man, Slash, The Cash, 15 ran. 4l, 4l, 1l, 7l, 3l. Mrs M Reveley at Saltburn. Tote: £3.60; £1.80, £10.30, £4.20. DF: £83.20. Tncst: £1,238.20. CSF: £87.90.

2.35 (3m 1f ch) 1, MERRY GALE (G Bradley, 5-2) 2, Mariomick (N Williamson, 100-30), 3, Monsieur Le Cure (P Niven, 13-2). ALSO RAN: 2-1 fav Barton Bank (6th), 16 Second Schedule (5th), 20 Nastabatic (4th), 6 ran. 15l, 2½l, 14l, 1l, dist. J Dreaper in Ireland. Tote: £3.40; £2.10, £1.70. DF: £5.40. CSF: £12.15.

3.10 (2m chs) 1, MORCELI (N Williamson, 11-4 fav, Thunderer's nephew, 2, Dancing Paddy (M A Fitzgerald, 4-1), 3, Martin's Lamp (A Maguire, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 4 Camirow (4th), 9 In Truth (pu), 14 Monday Club (5th), 20 Dual Image (6th), 7 ran. 1½l, 1l, 5l, 14l, 30l. J Johnson at Bishops Auckland. Tote: £2.60, £2.10, £2.30. DF: £5.60. CSF: £12.79.

3.45 (2m 6f ch) 1, DUBLIN FLYER (B Powell, 11-2 fav), 2, Tourean Prince (R Farrant, 14-1), 3, River Bounty (G Bradley, 20-1); 4 Sir Peter Lely (Mr C Bonner, 14-1) ALSO RAN: 7 Meteagris, 10 Indian Tonic (ur), 11 Uranus Cottages (pu), 12 Have To Think (f), Western Legend (pu), 14 Bobendum (f), Buckboard Bounce (5th), 16 Greenhill Raffles (f), Smarte Express, 20 Latent Talent (f), What's In Orbit, 25 Channels Gate, Veleda II (6th), 33 Houghton (r), Some Day Soon, 50 Avonburn (f), Man Of Mystery (f), Reston Hill, 66 Clares Own, 100 Abcaller, L'Uomo Piu (ur), Sarah Jay, 26 ran. 3l, 7l, 4l, 14l, 5l. T Forster at Wantage. Tote: £5.50; £2.20, £3.40, £5.30. £4.90. DF: £65.30. Tncst: £2,463.00. CSF: £77.26. Tncast: £1,356.02.

4.20 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, STOMPIN (J Osborne, 9-1), 2, Clifton Best (G McCourt, 11-2), 3, Silver Wedge (A Maguire, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 4-1 fav Kissair (pu), 6 Golden Heist, 8 William Tell, 14 Backgammon (5th), 15 Gobsmacked (6th), Notcomplainingbut (4th), 20 Mediterraneo (pu), 25 Incitatus, 33 Eskimo Nel (f), Lesley's Angel, 50 River Junction, 66 Plato's Republic, Mimi's Pride, 100 Amber Valley, Tunet, 13 ran. NR: Mamicon, Sivil. 12l, 2l, 1l, Miss H Knight at Wantage. Tote: £11.00, £2.70, £2.30, £1.70. DF: £30.50. Tncst: £64.60. CSF: £53.44.

4.50 (3m 1f ch) 1, PROUD SUN (Mr M Fetton, 4-1), 2, Fitzstevenchannels (Mr N Wilson, 9-2), 3, Mr Fudge (Mr M Sowersby, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 11-8 fav Isgoneoff (pu), 14 Magnolia Man (ur), 25 Vague Influence (6th), 33 Major Mac (4th), 50 Convincing (6th), 8 ran. 5l, 13l, dist, 2½l, 2½l. S Pike at Sidmouth. Tote: £4.30; £1.40, £1.30, £1.40. DF: £14.90. CSF: £20.54.

5.20 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, WHAT A QUESTION (N Williamson, 11-1), 2, Major Bell (M Moloney, 12-1); 3, So Proud (M Perrett, 10-1), 4, Loch Seaveig (D J Moffatt, 14-1) ALSO RAN: 4-1 fav Attadale, 6 Abergallon, 7 Mystic Memory, 8 Hebridean (pu), 12 Lansdowne, 14 Olympian, 16 Gospel (6th), Island Jewel, 25 Nick The Bear, Zamirah (6th), 33 Cardinal Red, Seod Rioga, 100 Plumbob, 17 ran. NR: Arctic Speedy, 11 3½l, 2½l, 9l, nk, M Morris in Ireland. Tote: £13.50, £2.80, £2.80, £2.60. £2.50. DF: £126.40. Tncst: £561.60. CSF: £129.54. Tncast: £1,256.64.

Jackpot: £14,200.00 (0.2 winning tickets. Pool of £13,301.78 carried forward to Aintree today).

Placepot: £267.40. Quadpot: £32.80.

Brighton

Going: good, good to firm in places.

2.15 (5f 59yd) 1, General Rose (R Perham, 11-4), 2, Alvreed (11-4), 3, Miss Offset (5-4 fav), 5 ran. Nk, 3½l. R Hannon. Tote: £3.90; £2.00, £1.10. DF: £6.60. CSF: £9.46.

2.45 (5f 213yd) 1, Shiken's Son (R Hughes, 7-4 fav), 2, Apollo Red (14-1), 3, Wyverley Star (40-1), 15 ran. Nk, 1½l. J White. Tote: £2.20; £1.50, £2.20, £11.30. DF: £16.40. Tncst: £178.80. CSF: £24.99.

3.20 (5f 213yd) 1, Golden Lady (W Carson, 5-1), 2, Chewit (4-1), 3, Paddy's Rice (25-1). Another Jade 7-2 fav. 9 ran. 1½l, ¾l. R Hannon. Tote: £4.00, £1.60, £2.00, £6.60. DF: £10.90. Tncst: £205.30. CSF: £22.51. Tncast: £408.62.

3.55 (5f 209yd) 1, Sergayev (R Hughes, 7-4 fav), 2, Emerging Market (5-1); 3, Wise Conquer (10-1). 9 ran. 3l, sh hd. R Hannon. Tote: £2.90, £1.10, £1.60, £1.50. DF: £3.80. Tncst: £22.20. CSF: £9.73.

4.30 (1m 1f 209yd) 1, Roseed (W Carson, 9-4), 2, Yet Again (25-1), 3, Jumonard (Sun 11-2 fav). 8 ran. NR: Euro Forum, 13l, 1½l. J Dunlop. Tote: £3.30, £1.10, £2.20, £1.00. DF: £20.60. Tncst: £2.90. CSF: £42.06.

5.00 (1m 3f 196yd) 1, Credit Squeeze (J Quinn, 12-1

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Item: one rural stereotype, slightly foxed

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

The stuff of nightmares. You are starving hungry, and there is food all around you, but every time you make a dash for a Mars bar, it runs off and dives down a hole. That's what life is like for the rural fox, apparently. Last night's brilliantly filmed **Wildlife on One: The Tale of the Big Bad Fox** (BBC 1) showed the relationship of the murderous Mr F to the cute defenceless rabbit in quite a new light — as a kind of torture. Simply, the bunny-wunnies outrain, outnumbered and outwitted the predator, leaving him grey, hound thin and perpetually famished. This vulpine existence looked pretty exasperating. Only if these rabbits leant on trees saying "Er, what's up, doc?" could it conceivably have been worse.

At the beginning, David Attenborough's commentary let us know the significance of what we were watching. "Now, for the first time, the mysteries of the rural fox . . ." On Mendip hillsides, through seasons of mists, snow, pollen and long-shadowed sunsets, the foxes came out to catch rabbits, but the odds just never improved. The point of Mike Beynon's film was that whereas foxes breed once a year (from the amount of yelling and snapping involved, once is quite enough), the rabbit rarely stops. Rabbits are not at risk, far from it. In spring, the buck rabbits leap and bounce in spectacular fashion, as though the earth is red-hot to their little paws. This has something serious to do with mating, but in Barrie Britton's excellent footage of the phenomenon, the words "Wheee!" and "Yee-ha!" came unstoppably to mind.

As always with natural history films, half one's attention was taken with questions of method. When a night-time shot of a lit farmhouse window pulled back just in time for a fox to slink past in the moonlight, you couldn't help thinking, "That wasn't *luck*, was it?". Vixens and yawning cubs in their dens, rabbits and furry kits underground — how is this done, then? Every time a fox caught a rabbit, the prey squeaked "Eek!", and funnily enough, you got used to it after a bit; it became a positive sound. I was reminded of the scene in Alan Bennett's stage version of *Wind in the Willows*, when the Wild Wooders unexpectedly ("Eek!") carried off a baby rabbit. Bennett drily describes the moment in his book *Writing Home*. "It shocked adults in the audience more than it did children."

Shocking to anybody were the revelations of **Talk Radio**, from Nicolas Kent's beautifully made *Naked News* series on Channel 4. It concerned the rise of radio stars Rush Limbaugh and G. Gordon Liddy as American national heroes — ultra-smug, right-wing monologuists who echo the views of the silent majority, and never make the mistake of overestimating the listener. Students worship them; their books sell in millions; conservative money has set up "Empower America", an agency which feeds them with material. "Empower America!" is what they say in this office when they answer the phone. As yet, they have not also incorporated a stiff-armed salute.

That the bald, charismatic G. Gordon Liddy should win friends and influence people is no surprise — he flaunts his previous criminal connections by driving with the licence plate H2OGATE, which at least shows he has a sense of humour. But from a distance, the appeal of the fat-necked Rush Limbaugh is less explicable. In New York roadside cafés, however, travellers may find a "Rush Room" — which sounds like a euphemism for lavatory, but is actually a haven for dedicated listeners, who can't salivate properly unless they can hear the Rush Limbaugh show at the same time.

The pejorative term for these fans is "ditto heads", and yes, many ditto heads were heard phoning in to say, yes I agree with you, ditto to that, you are fantastic and we love you. Radio has never been more influential. These guys are credited with the Republican landslide last year, and nobody is stopping them. At the Clinton White House, a nice, academic-looking man with a full beard and coloured shirt talked about strategies of defence in a way that indicated he wore sandals under the desk. Meanwhile G. Gordon Liddy looks like Erich von Stroheim.

A new children's entertainment, **The Ant and Dec Show**, started yesterday on BBC 1, starring junior heart-throbs Ant McPartlin and Declan Donnolly, formerly unknown to me, but apparently already involved in the popular music industry (so I believe, m'lud). But if they are famous, they clearly deserve to be. The show, staged in front of an enthusiastic studio audience, was casual, funny and surreal (the Vic Reeves influence was evident), and I particularly enjoyed Donnelly's repeated non sequitur: "A holiday on the Isle of Wight is cheaper than you might think." In a pastiche of *Gladiators*, the boys stood on upturned wire in-trays in cricket pads and duelled with cotton buds. It's not often you see that on television.

Finally, **Absolutely Fabulous** (BBC 1) concerned the arrival on New Year's Eve of Patsy's sister Jackie, played by Kate O'Mara. The show, like last week's, was an instant classic. There is a theory that good sit-com writers should quit while ahead, but these characters are irrepressible. Bubble (Jane Horrocks) has never been more bonkers, nor Patsy (Joanna Lumley) more ghoulish. Edina entered on roller blades, hilariously. "Fabulous, aren't they? Pats gave them to me for Christmas." Saffy was outraged. "I gave them to you for Christmas." Everyone turned to Pats. She shrugged. "I didn't say they were *from* me, I just gave them to you."

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast. National and international business news including updates on the financial markets every 15 minutes (13649)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (31672113)

9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (6088228)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1893216) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r). (Ceefax) (5382151)

10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine series. Includes gardening advice from Professor Stefan Buczacki (s) (8160858)

12.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (8164281) **12.05 Pebble Mill** with Gloria Hunniford. (s) (2094910) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (89290484)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (83113)

1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (86929842)

1.50 Crown Prosecutor (r). (Ceefax) (s) (65641113)

2.20 Racing from Aintree. Julian Wilson introduces live coverage of the **2.35** and **3.10** races. The **3.45** and **4.20** are on BBC2. The commentating team is Peter O'Sullevan, Jim McGrath, Richard Pitman, Peter Scudamore, John Hanmer, Bill Smith, Jonathan Powell and Graham Rock (s) (3316378)

3.35 Cartoon (8604858) **3.45 Dinobabies** (r) (6144804) **4.05 Rugrats** (s) (1647945) **4.30 Round the Twist** (r). (Ceefax) (3234026)

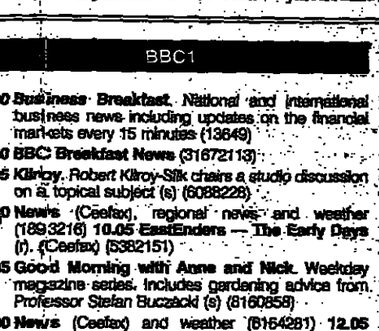
4.55 Newsround (4563842) **5.05 Blue Peter.** Includes a visit to the Bike Show at London's Olympia and music from the Wheeler High School Marching Band of the United States. (Ceefax) (s) (4054571)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (618113). **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (9387)

6.30 Regional news magazines (262). **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours.

7.00 Wipeout, Game show presented by Paul Daniels. (Ceefax) (s) (5281)



Parry with Graeme's skull replica (7.30pm)

7.30 Tomorrow's World. Includes the second part of Vivienne Parry's report on the pioneering operation to reconstruct the face of Graeme Tennick, a patient with a shattered skull. (Ceefax) (674)

8.00 Torvill and Dean: Facing the Music. The ice dancers in action during the months of their 1994 comeback (r) (7736)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather. (7674)

9.30 [redacted] 999. (Ceefax) (s) (203945). **Northern Ireland:** Anderson on the Box **10.25** *999* **11.15** *US Masters* **12.30am–2.05** Film: Friday the 13th Part VIII

10.20 Golf — US Masters. Live coverage from Augusta National. The commentators are Peter Alliss, Alex Hay and David Mair (5472910)

11.30 FILM: Friday the 13th Part VIII — Jason Takes Manhattan (1989) starring Jensen Daggett. Horror movie about a psycopathic slasher heading for New York on a cruise ship. Directed by Rob Hedden. (Ceefax) (740397)

1.05am Weather (8253798).

BBC2

6.20 Open University

8.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (7995910)

8.15 Germany 1925-32 (b/w). Trams (1039649)

8.20 Quantum: Pouches Rule, OK? (5996804)

8.50 A Week to Remember (b/w) (r) (5053804)

9.00 Missing Persons — Dead or Alive? (49562)

10.00 Playdays (r) (s) (8738277)

10.25 FILM: Cervantes (1967) starring Horst Buchholz and Gina Lollobrigida. A biopic of the Spanish novelist. Directed by Vincent Sherman (15594736)

12.30 Working Lunch (51113) **1.00 Model Millie** (r) (73730308) **1.15 Open View** (r) (85275910)

1.20 FILM: Countdown (1968) starring Robert Duvall and James Caan. Space flight drama directed by Robert Altman (77328282)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **All in the Mind.** Lateral thinking quiz (s) (4583755)

3.35 Racing from Aintree continued from BBC1. *live coverage of the* **3.45** *and* **4.20** *races.* Includes **News** and weather at **3.55** (1137864)

4.45 Today's the Day. History quiz (s) (249197)

5.15 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (994020)

5.45 Esther. *A discussion on nasty neighbours* (s) (344561) **6.15 Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons** (r). (Ceefax) (146552)

6.40 The Champions (r). (Ceefax) (112571)

7.30 Top Gear Motorsport. Includes a report on China's first international motor race. (Ceefax) (216)

8.00 [redacted] Countrymen: The Foxhunter. (Ceefax) (s) (2571)

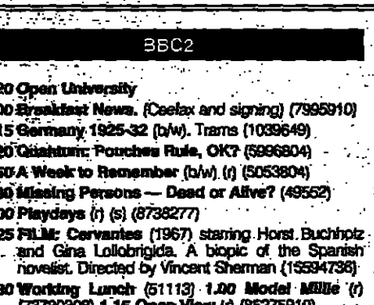
8.30 Gardeners' World. (Ceefax) (s) (8378)

9.00 Steptoe and Son (b/w) (r). (Ceefax) (5216)

9.30 Golf — US Masters from Augusta (201587)

10.20 Close-Up. Jonathan Ross selects a scene from the film *Faster Pussycat Kill Kill* (816200)

10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (787397)



Baddiel, Loughran and Skinner (11.15pm)

11.15 Fantasy Football League with David Baddiel, Frank Skinner and Angus Loughran (s) (395649). **Wales:** Welsh Lobby 11.45 Fantasy Football League 12.45am Vivian Stanshall 1.05-2.40 Film: They Live By Night

11.45 Duckman. Adult animation (s) (562378)

12.10am Weather (7413798)

12.15 [redacted] Vivian Stanshall: Diamond Geezer (s) (1151175)

12.35 FILM: They Live By Night (1949, b/w) starring Farley Granger. A drama about a naive young man who is persuaded to join a bank robbery. Directed by Nicholas Ray (406750). Ends at **2.15**

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CHOICE

Time After Time
ITV, 8.30pm

The success of the Paul Minett-Brian Leveson sit-com, now back for a second series, lies in accurately representing a particular segment of London working-class culture. Here is a cheerfully vulgar world where crime is never far away and policemen are there to be mocked, along with any pretension to intellectual betterment. The one member of the family who is not in prison or has recently left it is the younger brother. Studying for his GCSEs, he is derided as being so innocent he makes Phillip Scofield look like Ronnie Biggs. The comedian Brian Conley, as the jailbird trying to go straight, continues to enliven the show with his cocky, leering charm.



Perranporth Surf Livesaving Club (BBC1, 9.30pm)

999
BBC1, 9.30pm

Powerboat crashes and parachutes that fail to open have long provided staple fare for Michael Buerk's heroic rescues show and they do so again tonight. But the new series also opens with a more unusual accident, in which a farmer unknowingly ends up with a piece of barbed wire embedded in his chest. In the tradition of the series all the stories have happy endings, a retort to accusations that disasters are being restaged for our perverted pleasure. The other justification for *999* is to disseminate safety propaganda and launch appeals. The latest, for blood donors, comes in a new format called data burst. The idea is that you record it and play it back, page by page, using the pause button on the remote control.

The Countrymen: The Foxhunter
BBC2, 8.00pm

With moves to ban blood sports high on the political agenda, the aptly-named Barry Todhunter presents a defence of fox-hunting. He has 22 years of hunt service behind him and he is an eloquent spokesman for his cause. He starts from the premise that the fox is vermin and must be controlled. With the wolf no longer around, the job must fall to man. But how best to do it? Culling can be cruel and ineffective, while poisoning is indiscriminate. Todhunter says that foxes caught by hounds are either dead within seconds or escape unscathed. Opponents tend to make their case with footage of foxes suffering a bloody demise. Todhunter replies with film of headless lambs, though it has been toned down in deference to the early evening slot.

Vivian Stanshall: Diamond Geezer
BBC2, 12.15am

When Vivian Stanshall died last month at a sadly early age, thoughts went back to the 1960s when Stanshall and his Bonzo Dog Doo-Dah Band mounted a gloriously surreal parody of the prevailing rock music. Stanshall was an original, who fitted no obvious classification. His unorthodox style and absurdist humour were very much his own. The invention was not sustained and in the decade of so before his death little had been heard from him. But a couple of years ago he made a short autobiographical film for *The Late Show*, a mixture of songs and reminiscences which beautifully distilled the essence of his work. It forms the centrepiece to this tribute, which is introduced by an admirer, John Peel. **Peter Waymark**

CARLTON/LWT

6.00 GMTV (3706002)

9.25 Chain Letters with Ted Robbins (s) (2493668) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8403976)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place John Stapleton presides over members of a studio audience as they discuss a topical issue (s) (4082755)

10.35 This Morning. Weekday family magazine (7645262) **12.20pm London Today** (6160465)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (9057910)

12.55 Coronation Street (r). (Teletext) (9145129) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (73533939) **1.55 The Chrystal Rose Show.** Frank debate with a studio audience (s) (66635552)

2.25 A Country Practice (s) (58231755) **2.50 High Road.** Judith and Sneddon realise they have a common enemy in Sam. (Teletext) (1245484)

3.20 ITN News headlines (4482587) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (4481858)

3.30 Rosie and Jim (s) (8518007) **3.45 Warner Brothers Cartoons** (8506262) **4.00 Zzzap!** (r) (s) (6015533) **4.15 Tiny Toon Adventures** (7451823) **4.40 The Geeks** (Teletext) (s) (7510587)

5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating (Teletext) (4048910)

5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (696026)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (145823)

6.25 London Tonight (Teletext) (860571)

7.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right. The comedian hosts the gameshow where prizes are won or lost on the turn of a card. (Teletext) (s) (7649)

7.30 Coronation Street. Ken receives some shattering news about one of his children. (Teletext) (842)

8.00 The Bill: Learning Curve. Nick Slater shows the caring side of his nature; while Deakin and Carver find buried treasure. (Teletext) (6397)



Seckinsale, Allen and Conley (8.30pm)

8.30 [redacted] Time after Time (Teletext) (s) (5804)

9.00 The Ruth Rendell Mystery: Vanity Dies Hard. In the final part of this subtle drama, Nesta is still missing and Alice looks into her husband's background. (Teletext) (s) (2668)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (39002)

10.30 FILM: To Live and Die in LA (1985) starring William L. Petersen and Willem Dafoe. A secret service agent is determined to hunt down his partner's killers, even if he has to break the law to do so. Directed by William Friedkin (96581755)

12.35am London Tonight (Teletext) (6761408)

12.45 Get Wet. Water sports (3418779)

1.05 The James Whale Show. Late-night entertainment (s) (9511971)

2.05 The Chart Show (s) (6989330)

3.00 Noisy Mothers. Rock and heavy metal music magazine (s) (9394866)

3.55 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (s) (8587088)

4.30 The New Music. Includes a profile of Johnny Cash and an interview with Madonna (84224)

5.30 ITN Morning News (47576). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Spiff and Hercules (7758007)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (73736)

9.00 Spacecats (r) (26939) **9.30 California Dreams.** Adventures of a high school rock band (6189281) **9.55 Gamesmaster** (r) (6197200) **10.25 Batman** (2237282) **10.55 The Adventures Of Tintin** (r) (5337991) **11.20 Pugwall's Summer** (r) (5088026) **11.50 Terrytoons** (8726939)

12.00 The Lorax. A tale about the disastrous effect of man's greed on the environment (30213)

12.30 Sesame Street (r) (82736) **1.30 The Magic Roundabout** followed by **The Wombles, Paddington** and **The Clangers** (r) (65721303) **1.55 Ginger Nutt's It's A Lovely Day** (79029842)

2.10 FILM: Valley of Song (1953, b/w) starring Clifford Evans. A comedy about a choirmaster who splits a village when he gives the contralto part in Handel's *Messiah* to one young woman instead of another. Directed by Gilbert Gunn (3107858)

3.30 Profiles Of Nature. A visit to a heronry near Lake Erie (r) (5108842)

3.55 Waterways. Dick Warner arrives at his destination, Limerick (r). (Teletext) (1990939)

4.30 Fifteen-To-One (Teletext) (s) (755)

5.00 Deadline (r). (Teletext) (s) (8755)

5.30 Undercover Britain: Taxi Touts (r) (197)

6.00 Blossom. Los Angeles-based teen comedy. (Teletext) (s) (620)

6.30 Happy Days. American comedy series. (Teletext) (856552) **6.55 Terrytoons.** Cartoon (544945)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (892945)

7.50 You Don't Know Me But . . . (s) (770113)

8.00 Gardens Without Borders: Italy. Alan Mason and Ken Akers search for alpine plants in the mountains above Lake Maggiore. (Teletext) (s) (4939)

8.30 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (9674)

9.00 Ellen. American sit-com. (Teletext) (s) (7484)

9.30 Rising Damp. Classic boarding house comedy starring Leonard Rossiter (r). (Teletext) (39945)

10.00 Jo Brand Through the Christmas Cakehole (r). (Teletext) (s) (762638)

10.50 The Jack Dee Show. In the last of his series the comedian is joined by the singer Mica Paris (r). (Teletext) (s) (254668)

11.20 Baadasss TV presented by Ice-T and Andrea Oliver. The guests include Juicy Lucy, Barry White and the comedy duo Father and Son (s) (233194)

11.50 Beavis and Butt-Head (s) (421129)



Andy Griffith and Patricia Neal (12.25am)

12.25am FILM: A Face in the Crowd (1957, b/w) starring Andy Griffith, Patricia Neal, Walter Matthau and Lee Remick. A satirical drama about the influence of television. Directed by Elia Kazan (60506311)

2.40 FILM: Maria Marten, Or The Murder in The Red Barn (1935, b/w) starring Tod Slaughter, Sophie Stewart and Eric Portman. A bloodthirsty melodrama about an evil Victorian squire who murders his servant mistress and buries her in a remote barn. Directed by George King (2134137). Ends at **3.50**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News (8403976) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News (6160465) **1.55** The Young Doctors (8882439) **2.20-3.10** Murder, She Wrote (4654991) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News (4481858) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (8048910) **6.25-7.00** Anglia Weather followed by Anglia News (860571) **10.30** Anglia News (860216) **10.40** Love Call Live (2298465) **11.45** Bodies of Evidence (857197) **12.35am** The Hidden Room (7423088) **1.05** The New Music (9564779) **3.05** Noisy Mothers (8393137) **4.00** The Album Show (96089) **5.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (15156)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (8403976) **12.20pm-12.30** Central News and Weather (6160465) **1.55** A Country Practice (889 24397) **2.20** Wish You Were Here...? (58223756) **2.50-3.20** XPress (1245484) **3.25-3.30** Central News (4481858) **5.10-5.40** Movies, Games and Videos (4048910) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (860571) **10.30** Central News and Weather (980216) **10.40** Central Weekend (4585210) **12.10am** Magnum (5710585) **4.30** Jobfinder (8474935) **5.20** Asian Eye (7365382)

GRANADA

As London except: **12.55-1.25** Shortland Street (9145129) **1.25** Home and Away (4907194) **1.50** Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman (8500823) **2.50-3.20** Wish You Were Here...? (1245484) **5.10-5.40** High Road (4048910) **6.25** Granada Tonight (225533) **6.50** Kick Off (180281) **10.30** Granada News (860216) **10.40** Bachelor Party (47470281) **12.35am** Eye TV (7420088) **1.05** The James Whale Show (9511971) **2.05** The Chart Show (6989330) **3.00** Noisy Mothers (9394866) **3.55** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (8587088) **4.30** The New Music (84224)

HTV WEST

As London except: **1.55** High Road (85885552) **2.25-3.20** Murder, She Wrote (8458184) **3.25-3.30** HTV West Headlines (4481858) **5.10-5.40** A County Practice (4048910) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (860) **10.30** HTV West Headlines and Weather (860216) **10.40** The Car (47470281) **12.35am** The Twilight Zone (7420088)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: **9.55-10.00** HTV Wales News (8403976) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV Wales News and Weather (6160465) **3.25-3.30** HTV Wales News (4481858) **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (858) **10.30** HTV Wales News and Weather (860216) **10.40-11.10** Wales This Week (259116)

MERIDIAN

As London except: **1.55** A Country Practice (88924397) **2.20-2.50** Heirloom (58223756) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (4048910) **6.00-7.00** Meridian Tonight (38858) **10.30** Meridian News and Weather (860858) **10.45** Street Legal (4226823) **11.40** Phoenix (737502) **12.40am** The Hidden Room (4178663) **1.05** The New Music (9564779) **3.05** Noisy Mothers (8393137) **4.00** The Album Show (96089) **5.00** Freescreen (13156)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: **1.55** Murder, She Wrote (8609194) **2.55-3.20** A Country Practice (7572587) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (4048910) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (38858) **10.40** Married with Children (259113) **11.10** Off Beat (880194) **1.00am** Curtis Calls (8248695)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: **9.55-10.00** Calendar News and Weather (8403976) **12.20pm-12.30** Calendar News and Weather (6160465) **1.55** A Country Practice (88924397) **2.20-3.10** Murder, She Wrote: Trials and Tribulations (6468571) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (4048910) **5.55** Calendar (157484) **6.30-7.00** On Your Marks (858) **10.30** Calender News and Weather (860216) **10.40** Film: The Abominable Dr Phibes (82432878) **12.20am** Married with Children (54638995) **12.55** The James Whale Show (54758601) **1.55** The Big E (1492068) **2.50** The Beat (41922553) **3.45** Shirt (60845776) **4.35** The Long White Trail (37731224) **5.00** Sportsworld (13156)

S4C

Starts: **7.00** The Big Breakfast (73736) **9.00** Spacecats (26939) **9.30** California Dreams (6189281) **9.55** Gamesmaster (6197200) **10.25** Batman (2237282) **10.55** The Adventures Of Tintin (5337991) **11.20** Pugwall's Summer (5088026) **11.50** Terrytoons (8726939) **12.00pm** The Lorax (30213) **12.30** Sioe Meithrin (45281) **1.00** Sesame Street (41736) **2.00** The Elusive Pimpernel (2281) **4.00** Undercover Britain: Taxi Touts (571) **4.30** Saved By The Bell: The College Years (756) **5.00** S Pump (8755) **5.30** Fifteen To One (187) **6.00** Newyddion (5153977) **6.15** Heno (5902001) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (6991) **7.30** Penwythnos Mawr (464) **8.00** Cefn Gwlad: Ellinory Post (4939) **8.30** Newyddion (8674) **9.00** Plaid Lliwod (2258938) **9.45** Synyr (2218225) **10.00** Brookside (39084) **10.30** The Zebra Man (5152811) **10.50** The Jack Dee Show (254668) **11.20** Baadasss TV (233194) **11.50** Beavis And Butt-head (421129) **12.25am** Scanners (4485576) **2.25** Maria Marten, Or The Murder In The Red Barn (7097866)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am The DJ Kat Show (34804) **9.00** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (54736) **9.30** Blockbusters (53007) **9.55** Oprah Winfrey (76674) **10.00** Concentration (95484) **10.30** Card Sharks (88571) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (26699) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (57823) **12.30pm** Anything But Love (79587) **1.00** *St Elsewhere* (94842) **2.00** Matlock (96113) **3.00** Oprah Winfrey (8578036) **3.50** The DJ Kat Show (4454007) **4.30** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (7755) **5.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (7668) **6.00** Murphy Brown (8620) **6.30** Family Ties (2200) **7.00** Rescue (8397) **7.30** M*A*S*H (8484) **8.00** Andrew Newton (8045) **8.30** Coppers (6552) **9.00** Walker, Texas Ranger (11633) **10.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (14620) **11.00** David Letterman (942397) **11.50** Lidsjohn (548397) **12.45am** Chances (4882088) **1.30** The New WKRP (23971) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix (2876352)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (5196129) **9.30** Worldwide Report (44648) **10.30** ABC Nightline (94113) **11.00** News and Business (608705) **1.30pm** CBS News (16378) **2.30** Parliament (70755) **3.30** The Lords (7378) **4.00** News and Business (86303) **5.00** Live at Five (8293823) **6.05** Littlejohn (80530939) **9.30** O.J. Simpson Trial, Live (28574) **11.30** CBS News (713033) **12.30am** ABC News (34799) **1.30** Target (84760) **2.30** Parliament (88801) **3.30** The Lords (70446) **4.30** CBS News (31156) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (99494)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (2103464). **10.00 Windwalker.** (1980) (73303) **12.00** The Jokers (1966) (73216) **2.00pm** Lucky Lady (1975) (36200) **4.00 Switching Parents** (1993) (85385571) **5.55** The Misfits (1961) (80877555) **8.00** The Breakthrough (1993) (70618674) **9.40** US Top Ten (4562200) **10.00 Body of Evidence** (1993) (724939) **11.45 American Ninja 5** (1992) (1939845) **1.30am Sam's Experience** (1993) (2904427) **3.10-5.00 Walking Tall Part 2: Vengeance Trail** (1975) (82921886)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

2.00pm Showcase (11674) **4.00** The Good Fairy (1935) (17408539) **5.50 Fort Apache** (1948) (42049910) **8.00 Red Scorpion** (1989) (88303) **10.00 Children of the Corn** (1984) (985113) **11.40-2.00am Assault on Precinct 13** (1976) (89700484)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Young People (1940) (9023262) **7.20 Tarzan and the Amazons** (1945) (21413991) **8.35 Treasure Island,** Animation (72499997) **9.25 White Fang** (1993) Cartoon (8002484) **10.20 Can-Can** (1960) (18140216) **12.30pm Sister Act** (1992) (48276194) **2.10 The Mouse That Roared** (1959) (695533) **4.00 Treasure Island:** As 8.35am (43741) **5.00 White Fang** (1993). As 9.25am (9246910) **5.55 Ladybugs** (1992) (77953129) **7.30 The Movie Show** (1194) **8.00 Sister Act** (1992). As 12.30pm (28823) **10.00 Interceptor** (1992) (1846854) **11.35 One Woman's Courage** (1993) (3998000) **1.10am Body Language** (1992) (5675767) **2.45 A Prayer for the Dying** (1987) (144175) **4.35-5.55 The Mouse That Roared** (1959): As 2.10pm (9116566)

● **For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Soccer News (5547262) **7.15** Transworld Sport (822376) **8.15** Soccer News (1921084) **8.30** Bootroom (33262) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (56910) **10.00** Snooker: The British Open, Live (9631303) **5.00** World Sport (2277) **5.30** Soccer Magazine (1945) **6.00** Soccer Weekend (87945) **7.00** Tennent's Scottish Cup Semi-Final, Live: Hibernian v Celtic (76711910) **9.45** Snooker: The British Open, Live (96030587) **12.00** Soccer Weekend (82224) **1.00-2.30am** The Big League (16088)

SKY SPORTS 2

6.00am End Zone (4856216) **7.00** The Big League, Live (49139553) **9.30** Australian Rules Football (9444842) **11.30-12.00** NBA Action (7951303)

EUROSPORT

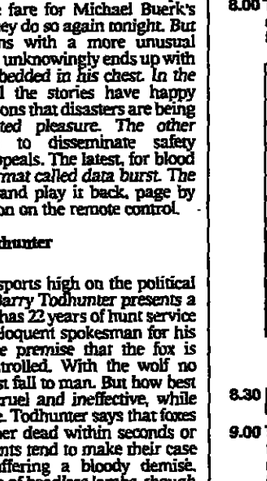
7.30am Dancing (41939) **8.30** Tennis (770726) **9.00** Football (58026) **10.30** Football (99838) **12.00** Live Tennis (2903078) **5.00pm** Live Formula One (1262) **8.00** Live Tennis (8886) **6.30** Eurosport News (1378) **7.00** Motorsports (62281) **8.00** Boxing (51129) **9.00** Wrestling (54216) **11.00** Formula One (27874) **11.30** Tennis (20194) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (37137)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (7480910) **8.30** Peyton Place (7499281) **9.00** As the World Turns (4326842) **10.00** Guiding Light (3510991) **11.00-12.00** Another World (3530755)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Globetrotter (7400397) **12.30pm** Zoo Life (4785397) **1.00** Caribbean Vacation (3534571) **1.30** Cook Italian (4784698) **2.00** The Great Escape (4364397) **2.30** Rome (3381718) **3.00** Whicker's World — The Ultimate Package (1278900) **4.00** Sky Travel Guide Review (6135610) **4.30** Zoo Life (2735674) **5.00** The Great Escape (4355848) **5.30-6.00** Cook Italian (9781754)



Michael Redgrave in *The Stars Look Down* (Bravo, noon)

TLC

9.00am The Joy of Painting (4301638) **9.30** Madeleine Cooks (2181397) **10.00** House Style (2798910) **10.30** Life is for Living (2408002) **11.00** Only Human (4651200) **12.00** Step by Step (4406282) **12.30pm** Being There (2195113) **1.00** Madeleine Cooks (4735218) **1.30** Painting (2194484) **2.00** Right or Wrong (3333378) **2.30** Somebody's Children (8735804) **3.00** House Style (3348113) **3.30-4.00** Acorn (8747649)

UK GOLD

7.00am Give Us a Clue (4798303) **7.30** Neighbours (4644910) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (5856723) **8.30** EastEnders (6206264) **9.00** The Bill (2501656) **9.30** All Creatures Great and Small (6949649) **10.30** Casualty (6759668) **11.30** Going for Gold (6273465) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2606200) **12.30pm** Neighbours (2197571) **1.00** EastEnders (4737674) **1.30** The Bill (2196842) **2.00** My Name is Harry Worth (3335736) **2.30** Triangle (8737262) **3.00** Knots Landing (6277281) **4.00** Dallas (8389216) **5.00** Going for Gold (3422216) **5.30** Hi-De-Hi (8629533) **6.30** EastEnders (8752571) **7.00** Sweet Sixteen (3339652) **7.30** Kenny Everett Show (8758756) **8.00** The Dawson Watch (3348200) **8.30** Fresh Fields (3334007) **9.00** Casualty (6257533) **10.00** The Bill (2707259) **10.30** Miami Vice (3273810) **11.30** Top of the Pops (3768910) **12.10am** Dr Who (9112804) **12.40** FILM: Let's Spend The Night Together (1982) (9846205) **2.15** Shopping at Night

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (6141533) **6.55** Garfield (8081552) **7.25** Eek the Cat (3686571) **7.55** Degrassi Junior High (3401465) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (8008942) **8.45** Casper (8249216) **9.00** Sesame Street (78658) **10.00** It's Drobee Time (37910) **10.20** Garfield (98262) **1.00** Beverly Hills Teens (85610) **1.30** Super Mario Brothers (90700113) **1.45** Baby Follies (90705988) **2.00** Barney (7485) **2.30** Babar (1587) **3.00** Casper (48936861) **3.15** Stunt Dawgs (7512881) **3.45** Sonic (7505552) **4.15** Head to Head in 3D (8632484) **4.30-5.00** California Dreams (8923)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickelive (5545804) **7.15** Pee-Wee (8603781) **7.45** Rugrats (8636649) **8.15** Doug (9542261) **8.45** NickAlive! (4382804) **9.00** Nick Jr (640649) **12.00** Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego? (57216) **12.30pm** Denver the Last Dinosaur (68088) **1.00** Smoggies (45991) **1.30** Gabby High School (56769) **2.00** Alvin and the Chipmunks (1649) **2.30** Henry's Cat (5571) **3.00** Grimmy (3484) **3.30** Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego? (1736) **4.00** Rude Dog (6823) **4.30** Rugrats (2007) **5.00** Clarissa (8129) **5.30** Odyssey (9587) **6.00** Doug (6200) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (7552)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Wild South (8357858) **5.00** On Location with Arthur C Clarke (3420858) **5.30** Arthur C. Clarke's World (8739620) **6.00** Invention (5657552) **6.35** Beyond 2000 (5225571) **7.30** Paramedics (8756397) **8.00** Arthur C Clarke's Mysterious Universe (3348842) **8.30** Locusts (3332649) **9.00** Sexual Imperative (6391303) **10.00** Future Quest (3056741) **10.30** Invention (1056661) **11.00-12.00** Aircrash (4649465)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: The Stars Look Down (1939) (2705200) **2.00pm** The Avengers (2783465) **3.00** Rat Patrol (3349939) **3.30** Hogan's Heroes (8630303) **4.00** FILM: Dr Goldfoot and the Girl Bombs (1966) (2404668) **5.30** 120 Volt Miracles (8639674) **6.00** It's Garry Shandling's Show (8836587) **6.30** The Wild Wild West (9672007) **7.30** Saber of London (8743823) **8.00** The Avengers (6202465) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (6287688) **9.30** FILM: Something to Cry About: A short Canadian film (2275303) **10.00-12.00** FILM: 9½ Weeks (1985): Erotic drama (8261620)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (5939945) **7.00** Living Magazine (2473007) **8.00** All Walt and Good (601025) **9.30** Kate and Allie (1300376) **10.05** Mr Smith's Indoor Garden (1875668) **10.35** The Susan Powter Show (18129587) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (2472378) **12.00** Kilroy (9573842) **12.55pm** A Taste of Wales (65187736) **1.30** The New Mr and Mrs Show (1189945) **2.00** Agony Hour (5959856) **3.00** Living Magazine (7253552) **4.00** Infatuation UK (81727356) **4.30** Crosswits (8161620) **5.00** The Joker's Wild (11731184) **5.25** Mediterranean Cookery (7059129) **6.00** The Susan Powter Show (81821113) **6.30** Infatuation (81734865) **7.00** Living Magazine (31369858) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (30493978) **9.00** FILM: The Parade (1984). A man returns home after seven years in jail. With Frederic Forrest (30439945) **10.50** Sneak Scenes (5843842) **11.00** Hit and Run (7348216) **11.30-12.00** Infatuation UK (5874113)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Dangermouse (4945) **5.30** Blade Warriors (435129) **6.25** All Clued Up (553859) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (1281) **7.30** My Two Dads (9552) **8.00** Road to Avonlea (95533) **9.00** Mo

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BOXING 39
FISTFUL OF DOLLARS KEEPS HOLMES COMING BACK FOR MORE

SPORT

RACING 41
YOUNG HUSTLER MOVES UP IN NATIONAL BETTING

FRIDAY APRIL 7 1995

Welshman equals his best Masters start with 69 as Beck sets pace

Woosnam leads European challenge

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, IN AUGUSTA

EGGED on by a band of supporters that included Glendryth, his wife, Ian Botham and Max Boyce, Ian Woosnam made light of the wet, overcast conditions and overpowered the long holes at Augusta National golf club here yesterday. Woosnam came off the par-72 course after a first round of 69 in the Masters with a jaunty step and the light of battle in his eyes. Was he reliving 1991, when he won?

Having had the wind put up them by the hardness of the course in practice and greens that were as firm and fast as on the Sunday of last year, the players arrived yesterday morning to find that overnight rain had dampened the course. What had promised to be a tiger with bared teeth turned out to be nothing more than a tabby.

Woosnam's 69 equalled his best start in eight appearances and his second lowest score in 27 rounds here. It equalled the scores of Hale Irwin, Scott Hoch and David Edwards, three Americans, none of whom will see 35 again. And as the day wore on and rain continued to fall intermittently, Woosnam predicted that the scores would fall still lower. Sure enough, an hour later Chip Beck took the lead with a 68.

Jack Nicklaus seemed intent on single-handedly proving Woosnam right when he went four, three, two, on the 3rd, 4th and 5th holes. That two, an eagle, was believed to be the first recorded at this hole.

Just as it is accepted wisdom that the way to play the Old Course at St Andrews is to aim down the left from most tees, so it is agreed that the key to low scoring in the Masters lies in mastering the par fives. All four represent birdie opportunities for men able to hit the ball a long way and, these days, at this level most men can.

Woosnam is a pocket Hercules whose *pièce de résistance* here was to clear the second bunker on the 18th, a little matter of a carry of 280 yards, in his last round in 1991. When he is drawing the ball as well as he is at present, so that the ball will follow the shape of the fairways, these holes are meat and drink to him.

They were yesterday. He walloped a 350-yard drive on the 555-yard 2nd and needed only a five-iron to reach the green. On the uphill 8th he pitched to ten feet from 80 yards. A four-iron to the sanctuary of the swale on the left of the green followed by two putts was all he needed on the 13th. Only the 15th caught out Woosnam.

Like Beck two years ago, he found himself caught betwixt and between after his drive. He had 230 yards to the front of the green. The distance suggested a three-wood but Woosnam was scared of his ball bounding through the green and scurrying into the water behind it. So he underclubbed, using a two-iron that he admitted later was probably a little ambitious. "I took a chance and paid the price," he said. It plopped into the water six feet short of dry land and that was his first bogey of the day.

One of the many pleasurable aspects of Augusta National is that, with only a few exceptions, it is easy to follow one player for a few holes and then flit through a glade of trees to pick up another. So it was that one was able to witness the "Augusta Gavotte" with Sandy Lyle before moving speedily to catch up with Woosnam.

The "Augusta Gavotte" is named thus because it involves a dance around the edge of the first three holes — up the right of the 1st, down the side of the 2nd, a quick side-step from the 2nd fairway through some cherry blossom and pink dogwoods to the 3rd green and then another step to the back of the 4th tee.

Lyle was playing with John Daly in a pairing that contained two of the biggest and wildest hitters in golf. His drive on the 1st crashed into a lady's shoulder and ricocheted into an upturned umbrella. His second missed the green and his third crawled like a man on all fours to the edge of the putting surface.

A five on the first hole of the first round of the Masters is not serious, even though that put him five strokes behind Hale Irwin, the leader at that moment. There are 71 holes to go, after all, plenty of time to recover.

But then Lyle hoicked his drive on the long 2nd into the trees to the left of the hole that swoops gloriously downhill. For a while, while Jolande, his wife, and Quentin, their three-month-old son, watched anxiously, Lyle crashed about in the foliage. He bunkered his third in one of the gaping sand traps and another bogey followed.

When he hit his tee-shot into a bunker on the short 4th, from which he had to play out with one foot in the sand and one foot out, it was time to move on to Woosnam. Lyle's golf was as dull as the skies.

Woosnam's however, was close to regal, not far, he later admitted, from the way he was playing in 1991. "Anything under par is a good score round here," he said. "But the rain this morning made me think that a really low score was on."

He took nearly a four-month break during the winter, spent time with his family, played some golf at Aberdovey and went cruising in the Mediterranean in a friend's yacht.

"I took the break just to get away from golf for a while. I've been travelling around the world for a few years and felt it was time to have a rest." He had taken a similar length of time off in 1986 and 1990 and the following seasons were two of his best.

David Miller, page 42

EARLY LEADERS



US unless stated

FIRST ROUND: 68 C Beck. 69: D Edwards, W Grady (Aus), S Hoch, H Irwin, I Woosnam (GB). 70: M Calcavecchia, M Ozaki (Japan), C Stadler. 71: J Haas, M A Jiménez (Spl). 72: M Sullivan, F Zoeller. 73: C Dennis, M Hansen, J Sluman. 74: C Coody, D Waldorf, J Morse, L Wadkins. 75: J Daly, S Lowery, A Lyle (GB). 76: B Faxon, R Fehr, G Player (SA), M Brooks. 78: J Maggert. 79: G Brewer, B Casper, * T Jackson. 81: F Nobilo (NZ). 84: * G Yamamoto. 88: D Ford.

* denotes amateur



HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Woosnam laments a missed putt at the 4th during his first round of 69 in the Masters at Augusta yesterday

Caution urged over plan for super league

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

A MEETING as crucial to rugby league as the one a century ago that brought the game into existence, faces club chairmen at Wigan tomorrow, when they discuss revolutionary proposals for an elite league in a season running from March to October.

Rejection of the £25 million plan for a summer super league of 12 teams from 1997 would almost certainly mean a split in the game similar to the one in Australia, where more than 125 leading players have committed themselves to the breakaway Star League operated by News Limited, part of The News Corporation, which is parent company of *The Times*.

Opinion is divided, and any vote at Central Park could be close. Alf Davies, the Leeds chief executive, said: "We'd urge the utmost caution. If we make the wrong decision, the game could be finished in a short space of time."

St Helens and Workington are two of several clubs fundamentally opposed to the notion of summer rugby. Wigan are firmly in the pro-summer lobby. Jack Robinson, the Wigan chairman, said: "We've been cruising for 100 years. With this plan, maybe we can start motoring."

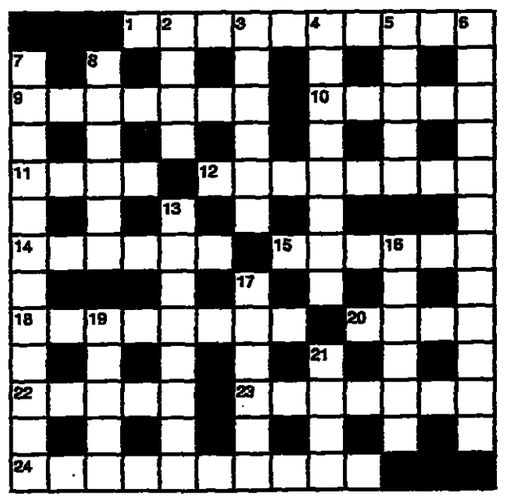
A global super league involving England, Australia and New Zealand is intended eventually to embrace Europe, South Africa and North America, with satellite television coverage on BSkyB in Britain, Star-TV in Asia, Fox in the United States and Foxtel in Australia.

Maurice Lindsay, chief executive of the Rugby Football League, has strongly backed the initiative. His support was called "treacherous" last night by Ken Arthurson, chairman of the Australian Rugby League, which is fighting an apparently losing battle to bring rebel players back to its fold.

As most of the Australian side have defected, the favourites face an obvious struggle in defending the World Cup this autumn in England and Wales.

Australian coup 39
Summer switch 39

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 440

ACROSS

1 Groggy, facing knockout (2,3,5)
9 Collapse of order (7)
10 Carry (someone) in triumph (5)
11 Tip slightly (4)
12 Vitamin B1 deficiency disease (8)
14 Ship-steering apparatus (6)
15 Scant, thin (6)
18 Left-handed fighter (8)
20 Middling; equitable (4)
22 Bustling with activity (5)
23 Stirs from sleep (7)
24 Murky secrets (5,5)

DOWN

2 Notch; police station (4)
3 Tomboy (6)
4 Radio apparatus; a fence (8)
5 Tree; Euclid-type geometry (5)
6 Normal military uniform (7,5)
7 Speck in Pacific, has giant carvings (6,6)
8 Legendary (6)
13 Sluggishness (8)
16 Pointed beard (6)
17 Seasoned cold sausage (6)
19 Pronounce; complete (5)
21 Green stone; exhausted horse (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 439
ACROSS: 1 Arbitrator 8 Indulge 9 Enoch 10 Lely 11 Age limit 13 Rondo 14 Steep 16 Squatter 17 As is 20 Magma 21 Imagery. 22 The Holy See
DOWN: 1 Ariel 2 Body language 3 Tell 4 Aweigh 5 One flesh 6 Formlessness 7 Shut up 12 Footpath 13 Resume 15 Relish 18 Style 19 Wail

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Luton hoping to move indoors

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

LUTON Town, the Endsleigh Insurance League first division club, yesterday revealed plans to move to a £30 million, 20,000-seat indoor stadium. The council-owned lease on their cramped Kenilworth Road ground runs out in May next year.

The new ground would be a scaled-down version of Chicago's Pontiac Silverdome, one of the venues for the 1994 World Cup. It would be built on a 50-acre site near the M1 turn-off for Luton airport and the scheme would include a hotel, community facilities and shops, parking for nearly 4,000 cars and a transportable football pitch.

Luton were pioneers of artificial surfaces but were forced to dig up their controversial plastic pitch when they were banned for competitive matches.

It is proposed that the grass pitch at the proposed new stadium would be built in nine movable 40-ton sections, allowing the hall to be used for pop concerts and exhibitions. David Kohler, the club's chairman, has already applied for planning permission but has yet to purchase the land on which it is planned to build.

"It is a dream and a very ambitious venture," he said. "But we are committed to moving from Kenilworth Road and we might as well move into the 21st century as well. We must seek to fund the project from things such as the National Lottery and grants but we are hoping to convince the council that it is a viable proposition for them.

"Its creation will provide the area with a first-class community, leisure and cultural facility which can be used throughout the year in all weather conditions."

Luton sold their present ground to the local council for £3.5 million six years ago and now pay a peppercorn rent for a venue which can accommodate just over 10,000 spectators.

"There are, of course, many obstacles ahead but it is up to the local authority if they want a multi-purpose facility like this," Kohler said. "All the architectural work and study has been carried out and there is no practical reason why it cannot work. Hopefully, if the council agree it is a practical and profitable scheme, they will renew our lease at Kenilworth Road until the new stadium is built."

Luton, who have the backing of Whitbread, the brewers, for the project, have already obtained "agreement in principle" from the Football Association, the Premier League and the Football League for the country's first indoor stadium.

"If it can be seen to be a live project I cannot envisage the football authorities having any objection," David Pleat, the team manager, said.

Milan on course to retain cup

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

AC MILAN are strong favourites to retain the European Cup after a last-minute goal by Zvonimir Boban gave them a 1-0 win at Paris Saint-Germain in the first leg of the semi-final on Wednesday night. The Croatian midfield player neatly tucked the ball into the net from close range after Dejan Savicevic made a superb run into the penalty area.

Milan, seeking to emulate Real Madrid's record of six European Cup triumphs, became the first side to beat the French champions in this season's competition. Paris Saint-Germain had won nine and drawn one of their ten previous European Cup matches, but they made little headway against the powerful Milan side.

In the other semi-final, Ajax Amsterdam moved a step closer to their first European Cup final for 22 years with a goalless draw in the first leg at Bayern Munich.

The Dutch champions outclassed the inexperienced Bayern side and now look in a perfect position to reach the final for the first time since they won the trophy for the third consecutive season in 1973.

Marc Overmars, the Holland international, was a constant danger down the left flank, where Samuel Kuffour, the Bayern defender, struggled to match his pace, but the match rarely excited the capacity 60,000 crowd.

Stig Inge Bjornebye, the Liverpool defender, was ruled out for the rest of the season yesterday after the club confirmed that the Norway international had broken a leg in the 3-1 victory over Southampton in an FA Carling Premiership match on Wednesday.

Bjornbye, who helped the club to win a record fifth League Cup trophy on Sunday, broke his left fibula when his studs became stuck in the grass as he stretched to reach a cross from Jamie Redknapp.

Tony Yeboah, the Leeds United forward, who scored a hat-trick in the 4-0 win over Ipswich Town, has decided to miss Ghana's African Nations' Cup qualifying match with Sierra Leone on Sunday and play against Liverpool instead.

The decision underlines Yeboah's commitment to the Elland Road cause even though he is not prepared to pledge his future to Leeds. The club and player have an option next January over whether he will stay at Leeds for a further two years.

Eintracht Frankfurt, from whom Leeds signed the 28-year-old striker, are understood to be keen to take him back. Yeboah said: "I have a contract up to January and I want to concentrate on playing for Leeds. I'm very happy here but we'll have to wait and see."

Leighton's return, page 40

MARTELL
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Full colour guide to the runners and riders in the Martell Grand National

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